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## Paris-Bonn military link: Mitterrand tells Soviets why

DIE WELT

The meeting between President Mitterrand and Mr Gorbachov ended with neither an agreement nor fresh disarmament proposals.

*Mitterrand* has now talked with the heads of both superpowers within a week. What does he think about the *prospects* for a Reagan-Gorbachov summit? "I wouldn't know whether, let alone when."

So the balance-sheet of his three-day visit to the Soviet capital could well be that the French President made domestic political mileage out of it while the Soviet Union gained almost unexpected French support for its opposition to SDI.

Except, that is, that the Germans were invisibly present at the talks. One of ~~the causes Mr~~ Mitterrand championed in Moscow was that of the Paris-Bonn military axis.

French relations with Moscow plummeted to a four-year freeze in 1981 just, oddly enough, as M. Mitterrand formed a coalition with the Communists.

While still Opposition leader he had criticised Giscard d'Estaing's relationship with the Soviet Union, saying "he seems to be Brezhnev's bell-hop" when Giscard tried to explain to the West the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Many French people who had long made eyes at Marx and Lenin suddenly discovered the evil in the Soviet urge to expand.

During the Nato missile deployment debate M. Mitterrand told the Bonn Bundestag: "The pacifists are here in the West but the weapons that threaten us are based in the East."

Tension came to a head in 1983 when the French President expelled 47 members of the Soviet embassy staff in Paris, saying they were engaged in espionage, not diplomacy.

French Ostpolitik has always been caught between the alternatives of a Franco-German understanding or a pincer movement based on Moscow's offer of a privileged relationship with the Soviet Union.

France might thereby be able to make some headway in Eastern Europe, amending the status quo and making good the "shame of Yalta," where the superpowers agreed, without consulting France, on the division of Europe.

German Ostpolitik since 1970, including such tendencies toward neutralism as M. Mitterrand surmised to exist, made the French leader give priority to these three points:

- The threat was posed by Moscow, which was to blame for the imbalance in Europe. So M. Mitterrand encouraged missile deployment by Nato.
- The Federal Republic's territory was France's forefront and France's defence was to be based on this assumption.
- Bonn was to be urged to join forces with Paris in setting up a new European system to supersede Yalta and end the division of Germany.

Last February President Mitterrand told Chancellor Kohl in Rambouillet he was prepared to hold consultations with the Germans before using France's pre-strategic nuclear arsenal on German territory.

The Gaullists, in power since March, propose as part of army reforms to include forward defence of the Federal Republic in French operational planning. A command is to be set up that will comprise the rapid deployment force (FAR), the First Army and France's tactical nuclear forces.

As ever, the Soviet response was not long in coming. The new man in the Kremlin paid President Mitterrand his first visit to the West in October 1985. The ice age in Franco-Soviet relations was over.

But Mr Gorbachov made the mistake of imagining France's force de frappe was negotiable if only nuclear forces were discussed "among Europeans." He was inevitably disillusioned by M. Mitterrand.

Yet some progress was still made in Moscow, where Mr Gorbachov called on France to freeze its nuclear armament at the present level.

M. Mitterrand told him again that France's weapon systems were strategic in character and did not fit into the Soviet leader's European scheme. Besides, French potential could hardly be compared with that of the Soviet Union, which was armed to the teeth.

Consideration could only be given to incorporating it in any arms reduction agreement once the superpowers had clearly scaled down their stockpiles.

Until this happened France would continue to modernise its nuclear weapons and to plan construction of a neutron bomb. That, then, was what had changed.

Now the Russians have failed in their bid to apply leverage to the French they can be expected to try to appear to be in cahoots with the Federal Republic, thereby sowing the seed of fresh mistrust in Paris.

Herr Genscher's Moscow visit was an opportunity for making moves in this direction and the French were noting with interest Soviet pointers that this might be the case.

*Peter Ruge*
(Die Welt, Bonn, 11 July 1986)

## IN THIS ISSUE





## Mother Theresa meets the Chancellor

**Mother Theresa visits Chancellor Kohl at his home in Oggersheim. At left is Frau Hannelore Kohl.** (Photo: dpa)

## Washington and Moscow sound a little softer

There are signs that something is happening between Moscow and Washington. After a period when progress had come to a halt there are signs of movement.

The clearest signs of fresh activities are the preparations for a meeting of Foreign Ministers to sound out the prospects of a second Reagan-Gorbachov summit.

The Russians cancelled the meeting between Secretary of State Shultz and Foreign Minister Shevardnadze after the American air raids on Libya.

If they now meet after all, then a fresh summit meeting of their respective leaders this autumn or early winter will have grown a more distinct possibility.

The improved atmosphere of political ties is reflected by President Reagan's remark to school-leavers at Glassboro High School, New Jersey, that his Soviet counterpart, Mr Gorbachov, is making serious efforts to bring about disarmament.

Not since the Geneva summit last November have such dulcet tones been heard from Washington, and the Kremlin leader, having previously transmitted positive signals, at least in overseas broadcasts, as it were, has taken yet another step forward.

Moscow no longer insists on agreements being signed at a summit, merely on bids to reach agreement in time for it.

Something specific is naturally expected, and the summit must surely be more than a further session at which the two leaders get to know each other.

With Presidential elections due in the United States in November 1988 and a long campaign run-up there are about 15 months left in which to negotiate arms control agreements. So the time for action has definitely arrived.

The two superpowers and their allies have not, it must be said, been inactive at the many conference rounds and some degree of rapprochement has been achieved, mainly because Moscow has agreed to move.

The Kremlin refused to do so for a particularly long time, of course, but Western missile modernisation is no longer seen as a handicap to negotiations.

Moscow is no longer resolved to discuss nothing but the scrapping of SDI. British and French nuclear weapons are no longer included in every warhead-count either.

Even advance American systems — strategic bombers and nuclear submarines — are no longer considered to be

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■ **WORLD AFFAIRS**

# Signals not changing despite East Bloc visitors to Bonn

**STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG**

With one diplomatic visitor after another from East Bloc countries, Bonn might be imagined to have come straight back into its own as a focus of Eastern European interest, and Soviet interest in particular.

Viktor Karpov, chief Soviet delegate at the three rounds of Geneva disarmament talks, called to talk with Foreign Minister Genscher, disarmament delegate Ruth and Foreign Office state secretary Meyer-Landruth.

He was followed by Viktor Israelian, head of the Soviet delegation at the jumbo round of Geneva UN talks on a comprehensive chemical weapons ban.

Hungarian Education Minister Köpeczi was in Bonn, following in the footsteps of Hungarian politbureau members and other leading Party and government officials and closely followed by Foreign Minister Varkonyi.

Herr Genscher in turn was shortly to visit Moscow for talks with Foreign Minister Shevardnadze and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachov.

This and the SPD's talks with envoys of the Polish Communist Party can be said to make a fairly impressive Ostpolitik arrangement.

But it would not do to mistake it for a more realistic approach by the East Bloc. The succession of meetings took place more by coincidence than by design.

A new quality in relations between the communist states and Bonn may, of course, be indicated by the Soviet Union's unmistakable readiness to keep the Federal government briefed on its disarmament views and proposals.

At the time of writing Mr Karpov's visit to Bonn is only three weeks past and the new Soviet ambassador Yuli Kvitsinsky, like his predecessor Mr Semyonov, has steadily plied the Federal government with the latest major speeches by Mr Gorbachov or with explanatory comments on them.

As this exercise began shortly after implementation of the Nato missile deployment decision the latest consultations need not necessarily mean Moscow has abandoned its policy toward Bonn.

The Kremlin has unmistakably cold-shouldered Chancellor Kohl's conservative government. The demonstrative cordiality with which France's President Mitterrand was welcomed to Moscow was partly intended to rebuff Bonn.

M. Mitterrand's arms policy line and stubborn insistence on nuclear tests in the Pacific ought to run counter everything Moscow has in mind, but whenever relations between Moscow and Bonn were under a cloud the French could be sure of particularly close Soviet attention.

Under Chancellor Kohl Bonn has yet to be at the receiving end of similar Soviet blandishments, and none seem likely, so the signs are that a chill will continue to be the keynote of relations between Moscow and Bonn.

Herr Genscher's visit to Moscow only seemingly contradicts this assumption. The Kremlin could, of course, limit it to talks with Mr Shevardnadze, but a meeting with Mr Gorbachov could well make sense.

For one, as talks with Soviet officials show, even the Russians are coming to feel relations between the Soviet leaders and the SPD have grown too top-heavy.

*For another, Herr Genscher's standing in the Kremlin has undergone a change from the time when he was unpopular for his part in ousting Chancellor Schmidt, who was highly rated by Moscow.*

Herr Genscher has since gained in standing for the Kremlin by virtue of his commitment to a fresh stage in detente, his reservations on SDI and his making a point of being ever ready to hold talks or offer his services as an intermediary.

He might not be the extended arm of the Kremlin in Chancellor Kohl's cabinet but he does personify a line of moderation and continuity.

The welcome extended to Herr Genscher need not be taken as a change in Soviet assessment of Bonn's policy.

The CDU/CSU is viewed critically as the senior partner in the Bonn coalition and Chancellor Kohl is still seen in Moscow as an uncritical ally of the United States.

As long as relations between the Soviet Union and West Germany are strained ties with smaller Communist states are unlikely to progress much further than a status perhaps best described as decorative.

East Germany is a case in point, having to forgo the grand political gesture and fillip to its self-esteem a visit to Bonn by GDR leader Erich Honecker would be.

Hungarian Foreign Minister Istvan Varkonyi's talks in Bonn with representatives of all parties and, for the government, with President von Weizsäcker, Chancellor Kohl and Foreign Minister Genscher may have dealt with East-West relations but had more the appearance of importance than the reality.

Everyone knows that in reality Budapest won't budge an iota from Warsaw Pact orders and that any conclusions Mr Varkonyi may reach in Bonn are unlikely to influence the Kremlin.

A more important aspect in this sector is bilateral progress as a substitute for the overall atmosphere, and on this score something is at least happening.

An agreement on exchanging cultural institutes may be ready for signing in time for President Richard von Weizsäcker's visit to Budapest (the first official visit a West German head of state has ever paid Hungary and his first official visit to an East Bloc country) this autumn.

Talks under way since mid-June have been promising. Education Minister Köpeczi has welcomed the possibility of opening a branch of the Goethe Institute in Budapest (it would be only the second in the East Bloc; the first is in Bucharest).

The Hungarians are still undecided whether to open their cultural institute in Munich, which would meet Bavaria, which has a special relationship with Hungary, half-way, or in a town in north Germany or the Ruhr.

If this arrangement works Bonn would stand a chance of coming to terms with Poland, whose Foreign Minister Orzechowski recently stated in Bonn that Warsaw no longer had any objections in principle.

Bonn's contacts with Warsaw have grown more relaxed, government officials clearly noting that the Polish leaders, in their special ties with the SPD, are keen to avoid creating the impression that their aim is to arrive at contractual arrangements with the SPD along the lines of the agreements between the SPD and the East German Communist Party.

The Polish policy line is not to sign treaties with the SPD, as reflected in the agreement reached between the two parties to advise proposing the establishment of a European Confidence-Building Council.

Social Democrat Horst Ehmke, not a man the Bonn government suffers gladly, is the man chosen to pass on the recommendation in Bonn, but that need not mean its premature demise.

It is to be raised at the Stockholm conference, and if other countries were to prove keen on it the SPD for one would feel some progress had been made.

*Eduard Neumaier*

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 8 July 1986)

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Continued from page 1

as important as they were. Instead a Soviet and an American proposal have been tabled in Geneva. They have some points in common and could serve as a basis for negotiation.

In a few days' time the United States is due to present further disarmament proposals.

Progress is being made in the conventional sector too, and not just on nuclear weapons. Since last December a Western proposal more far-reaching than its predecessors has been tabled at the Vienna MBFR talks on troop cuts in Central Europe.

It dispenses in particular with specification of current East Bloc troop strength, concentrating instead on the future. Future troop ceilings and regulations governing verifiability are specified.

The Soviet Union has yet to reply to these proposals, but the Warsaw Pact has acknowledged that substantial nuclear arms control is impossible unless accompanied by conventional disarmament.

It is still doubtful whether East and West have reached a turning-point, as Mr Reagan feels. But the prospects of progress at talks and on agreements have been enhanced.

Urging by both superpowers' allies seems to have played no small part, with the West clearly better able to exert influence than the East.

The Bonn government has achieved more by quiet but constant pressure in Washington than those who, like the Social Democrats, advocate head-on conflict with the Reagan administration.

Bonn must not ease the pressure either. It must press for movement not to come to a standstill again, continuing instead far enough to ensure that arms are really reduced and don't become the subject of a fresh build-up.

*Heinz-Peter Finke*

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 9 July 1986)

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# Soviets change European pigeon-holes

**DER TAGESSPIEGEL**

Organisational matters may not al- ways be political issues but they of- ten are. There has certainly been one interesting parallel between the State De- partment in Washington and the Sov Foreign Ministry in Moscow.

It is that both have had a single depart- ment in charge of the two German sta (and, of course, Berlin), Austria, Switz land and Benelux.

Commentators have frequently co cluded that Hitler's dream or, as we n know, the subject of Kurt Waldheim's thesis, the Greater German Reich, h nally come into being — at least on pap

But entrusting a single departme with the two German states and their im- mediate neighbours made sound/politic sense.

It was based on a *concept of* Cen Europe that wasn't limited to Germ and extended in an east-west direc between northern and southern Eur

Central Europe certainly didn't to mean simply divided Germany; it w understood to be a specific zone of own.

An organisational reshuffle *is now* e- dently under way at the *Soviet Forei* Ministry — inevitably, perhaps, after th assumption of power by a new Pa leader who has entrusted the Minis a provincial Party leader and prom changes and improvements in all secto

The Third, European department the Soviet Foreign Ministry no longer e ists in its previous form. The Federal R public, Austria, Switzerland and th Benelux states are now included in o unit and the GDR has been allocated the department in charge of the social states.

This is doubtless in keeping with th Soviet view, based on the division of Eu rope into socialist and non-socialist states. Whether the GDR is entirely hap py about being allocated to Eastern Eu rope is another matter.

The only point of real interest for that ongoing four-power responsibility for Germany as a whole and for Berlin will present the Soviet Union with a num ber of coordination problems as a conse quence of this departmental realignme

Was, perhaps, the confusion over pa sport arrangements for foreign diplo passing between East and West Berlin a case in point?

We will certainly need to keep a close eye on the consequences of the reorgani sation for Soviet policy.

(Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 3 July 1986)

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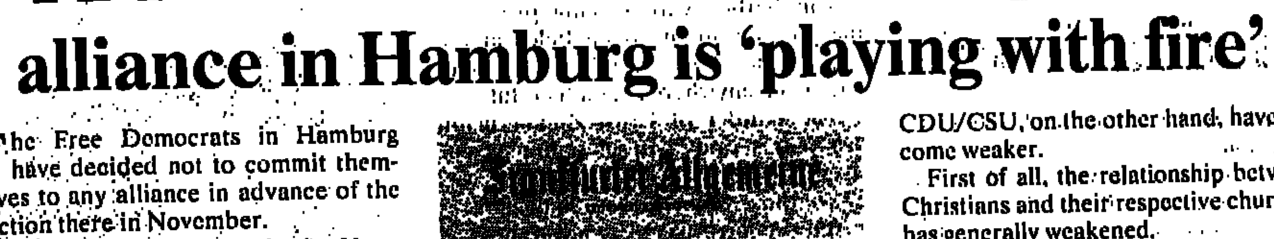
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■ **HOME AFFAIRS**

# FDP refusal to commit itself to pre-poll alliance in Hamburg is 'playing with fire'



The Free Democrats in Hamburg have decided not to commit themselves to any alliance in advance of the election there in November.

They have no members in the Hamburg assembly. In the last election in the city-state, in 1982, they won just 2.6 per cent of the vote. Five per cent is needed to win representation.

The chairman of the Hamburg FDP, Professor Ingo von Münch, probably feels that the party cannot do worse than last time — with or without a commitment to an alliance.

Some observers feel that the party's stand-back attitude means that it is willing to change coalition partners in Bonn: that is, to throw in its lot with the SPD if that suits it.

It is a policy of playing with fire. The FDP has twice changed coalition partner *in* Bonn. Another change would be *its kiss of death.*

It has already lost its bridgehead function between the country's two major political groupings.

There are signs that these groupings are moving even further apart. As long the Greens and Alternative groups continue to pull the SPD towards the left the FDP must remain committed to its centre-right position.

Wider differences would mean that electoral swings would tend to be within one or other of the political groupings rather than from one to the other. Another effect might be to cause the electorate to abstain.

The voting patterns in the state elections in the Saarland, North Rhine-Westphalia and, more recently, Lower Saxony, where many former CDU voters voted for the SPD, appear to contradict this.

Most of the voters who supported the SPD this time, however, had turned their back on this party at a time when the former Schmidt/Genscher (SPD/FDP) government reached an all-time popularity low.

Election analyses refer to a return to normality, since voters are gradually finding their way back to their real political home ground.

But is it really normal for voters not to express their gratitude to the centre-right parties for giving them the economic upswing they called for?

It is only then fair to maintain that there has been a return to normality if this implies a reaffirmation of traditional values for voters with SPD leanings.

Election pollsters have repeatedly shown that alliances exist between certain social groups and the two big political parties.

The SPD ranks as a workers' party, whereas the CDU caters for the political needs of traditional middle-class groups, in particular the self-employed and the farmers.

Although the percentage of workers in the total labour force has decreased substantially during the past few decades and there has been an equally drastic decline in the number of self-employed persons and farmers, these traditional affinities still remain.

Class- and job-specific support is complemented or replaced by other determinant factors: the close ties between trade unions and the SPD and the ties between conservative parties and the church.

The affinity between the SPD and the unions has grown during recent years.

The unions have become political front-line campaigners for the SPD.

Their strictly polemicist approach during the fight against labour law changes was undoubtedly intended to show the workers which political camp they allegedly belong to.

Union mobilisation has been effective.

The SPD gains during recent Land elections indicate that the Social Democrats are unlikely to suffer the kind of setbacks among its working-class voters that it experienced during the 1983 general election.

Political influence in the form of social control also helps ensure that these voters return to their traditional ground.

The ties between the church and the CDU/CSU, on the other hand, have become weaker.

First of all, the relationship between Christians and their respective churches has generally weakened.

This primarily applies to Protestants, but albeit to a lesser degree to Catholics too.

Secondly, as opposed to union leaders, church leaders today are less reluctant to call upon their congregations to vote for a certain political party.

This is a welcome development.

Today, it is difficult to imagine the church asking all its members to vote for the CDU or CSU.

Individual Protestant parish priests, however, are coming out more and more openly in favour of left-wing organisations.

In its election campaigns, therefore, the CDU and CSU have to step up their efforts to convey the values they represent and criticise the values supported by political opponents.

This also strengthens the trend towards greater polarisation.

The CDU/CSU primarily questions the reliability of the SPD because of the latter's collaboration with the Greens.

Although the SPD and the Greens are two separate parties the ideological dividing line between the two runs right through the middle of the SPD.

If the Social Democrats want to secure the absolute majority during the coming general election it will have to soak up Green voters.

It can only do this by making concessions on specific issues.

The fact that the party's candidate for chancellor, Johannes Rau, stands for the more conservative side of the SPD makes this seem very unlikely.

Rau, however, is part of the SPD's calculated risk, since West German workers have retained their fundamentally conservative attitudes and would be deterred by an out-and-out left-wing SPD Shadow Chancellor.

No-one can seriously believe that this situation would give the Free Democrats a new chance of survival in a coalition with the SPD.

The FDP's more conservative voters would not go along with such a move.

As a party pertaining to left-wing bloc the FDP would also be unable to push the Greens off the political map.

The decline into virtual insignificance of the Liberal University Association (LHV) within the coalition of left-wing and radical student groups at West German universities should serve as a warning to the FDP.

*Kurt Reumann*

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 1 July 1986)

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# Public opinion gives SPD little chance in general election

The state election in Lower Saxony last month appears to have damaged rather than improved the Social Democrats' for next year's general election.

A regular television research programme, Politbarometer, found that 42 per cent of respondents thought the SPD would have no chance at all of winning a general election if it were "next Sunday."

Only 41 per cent thought the Opposition parties (the SPD and the Greens) would win a combined majority; 52 per cent felt the ruling coalition of CDU, CSU and FDP would win.

But public opinion can change rapidly and an election can be won and lost in the final few weeks before an election.

In the poll in Lower Saxony, the Christian Democrats lost their absolute majority but will still be able to govern in coalition with the Free Democrats.

The Social Democrats increased their share of the poll from 37 per cent before the election to 42 per cent and increased their seats from 63 to 66.

But a glance at the state of the SPD and the road ahead for Shadow Chancellor Johannes Rau would not indicate that his party's chances of taking over in Bonn are likely to improve much.

Ever since Rau was chosen as his party's candidate for chancellorship he has, in his own judicious and careful manner, tried to brush aside the obstacles. But as fast as he has managed that, others have appeared.

In the wake of the Chernobyl reactor accident a growing number of people in the SPD and in the trade unions have called for a policy of opting out of nuclear energy.

The dispute within the party over security policy issues has far from died down.

If he wants to Rau could shape the course of discussions on these two issues.

However, there are two other problems which are not so easy to handle and which could damage the SPD's ambitions.

On the one hand, Rau is the deputy chairman of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, which, just like the foundations with close ties to other political parties, finds itself bogged

**Frankfurter Rundschau**

down in the quagmire of illegal funding practices.

On the other hand, the scandal surrounding the trade-union-run Neue Heimat building group is bound to cause the SPD a lot of trouble because of its close links with trade unions.

During his first speech as Shadow Chancellor in Ahlen Rau claimed that no-one would be able to drive a wedge between him and his party.

He recently reiterated his support for the trade unions.

It is not clear how he intends avoiding a dissociation from either one or the other on energy policy issues.

Rau can only counter claims that all radical positions in his party (as voiced by the SPD's West Westphalia and Lower Rhine groups and North Rhine-Westphalia's Young Socialists) are being stifled and that he is gradually moving away from basic SPD convictions by fixing a clear and credible schedule during the SPD's party conference at the end of August for a change in the party's policy on nuclear energy.

It remains to be seen whether voters who are undecided on whether to vote for the SPD or Greens will "swallow" an SPD promise to, as is expected, drop nuclear energy altogether by the year 2000 if it gets into government.

The politics pursued by the SPD's special commission headed by Volker Hauff would suggest that this is the planned scenario.

Rau rarely presents himself as a political opinion-leader and prefers await the outcome of political discussions before committing himself to a certain position.

He will have to take care in the field of security policy, however, that he doesn't suffer the same fate as former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, who already lost his party's backing while the party was still in opposition.

The fact that Rau intends elaborating a government policy programme after the SPD's party conference could turn out to be a mistake.

Although this approach enables party conference decisions to be incorporated in the policy programme Rau may be tempted "in the interest of our people" to adopt a different line than that advocated by the party at the party conference.

Rau has already indicated that he is not willing to be the mere "executor" of party policy.

The latest party-funding affair and the Neue Heimat scandal are additional problems for Rau's campaign. The

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■ GERMANY

# Murdered Siemens director one of several on death list

**Red Army Faction (RAF) terrorists murdered Siemens director Karl Heinz Beckurts and his chauffeur on the outskirts of Munich in the early hours one morning this month, with a remote-controlled 10kg bomb. Police said the bomb was positioned alongside a roadside tree and detonated as the car drove past. Professor Beckurts, 56, and his driver, Eckart Groppler, 42, died immediately. A letter claiming responsibility was found at the scene. It was signed by an RAF Mara Cagol command (named after the wife of the co-founder of Italy's Red Brigades). Professor Beckurts, a nuclear physicist, was one of a number of public figures RAF terrorists are said to be planning to kill.**

The killers struck with terrifying precision. They must have been planning the killing for some time in order to spot weaknesses in his security system.

They knew he could only drive to work in Munich every morning along the one road — a fast, straight trunk road — and it was there they struck.

On the outskirts of Strasslach, the Munich suburb where he lived, there is a road sign warning motorists from Munich that the main road is narrow in the village. There is also a fine old ash tree; and the lethal bomb lay inconspicuously at the foot of the tree.

"They must have been ice-cold professionals," said a police officer. He and his colleagues were shaken as they manned the red rope cordoning off the scene of the crime so Bavarian CID and, later, *Bundeskriminalamt* officers could comb it for clues.

The tree survived the explosion. It was merely stripped of bark by the blast from the ground to a height of one metre.

The top of the road sign was bent and there was a gaping hole at the side of the road. Grass, leaves, soil and splinters of metal lay like a carpet of dirt on the asphalt.

The bomb, estimated by police ballistics experts to have contained about 10kg of explosive, was detonated at just the right moment, to a fraction of a second, either by cable or by wireless.

Eye-witnesses saw a flame shoot 20 metres skywards. The right-hand side of the car, a BMW, was dented like an old tin can. The heavy saloon was catapulted over the road, clearing a grass verge and a metalled cycle track and landing in a wire netting fence beneath tall fir trees.

The car's doors and windows were smashed. Professor Beckurts and his driver lay dead, covered in blood and killed instantaneously, in front.

The two Siemens security officers trailing the car in another BMW ground to a halt three metres beyond the scene of the crime. They were unhurt, with only a smashed windscreen.

The police felt it was a miracle no other motorists had come to harm in the early morning rush hour as commuters headed for the Bavarian capital.

A grey tarpaulin was draped over the mangled front end of the wrecked car as it lay in the ditch. The two men had not yet been removed; police were still searching the scene for clues.

They felt they already had a possible clue. A white Volkswagen van with WM (Weilheim) number plates was seen speeding out of the roadside bushes toward Munich immediately after the explosion.

Dark traces of car tyres can clearly be seen on the asphalt. But neither helicopters nor police dogs succeed in finding other tracks or traces.

A letter was found at the scene of the crime. In it the Red Army Faction's Mara Cagol command claimed responsibility.

Mara Cagol, 20, was the wife of the *leader and co-founder of the Red Brigades in Italy.* She was killed in a shoot-out with the police on 6 June 1975. Three policemen died too.

An RAF killer command adopted the name of a foreign terrorist in February 1985 when a terrorist couple killed industrialist Ernst Zimmermann in Gauting, only 11km (seven miles) away as the crow flies.

They rang the bell at the door of his bungalow, and shot him in cold blood. Zimmermann was managing director of MTU, a turbine manufacturer.

The killers rang a local paper saying they were members of the Patrick O'Hara command. O'Hara was an IRA terrorist who died after a hunger strike at the Maze prison near Belfast in May 1981.

Beckurts is another leading executive to be murdered by terrorists — and another to be murdered near Munich. There are unmistakable similarities between the two cases — and equally clear distinctions.

Zimmermann seemed to have no fear of anything untoward happening. He *took no special security precautions,* his home wasn't protected and he was driven to work every day in a personalised company Mercedes with the registration number M — TU 5300.

Not so Professor Beckurts, who well knew the RAF were gunning for him. He had taken extensive safety precautions.

His BMW was armour-plated and always accompanied by another car as an escort. In comparison with Zimmermann's house his home on the outskirts of Strasslach was a virtual fortress. The house lay amid extensive grounds. Gates and doors were barred and shuttered. So were windows facing the road, even the dormer window in the roof.

Tall barbed wire fencing protected the grounds to the open fields at the rear. None of his neighbours seem to have been anywhere near as careful.

The murder of Ernst Zimmermann last year seriously upset senior executives in Munich. Professor Beckurts was one of those who clearly took the hint.

But the terrorists were not to be outdone. In Zimmermann's case they had simply rung the door bell. This time they noted the security measures undertaken to protect the house and grounds and decided to use explosives instead.

It was a safe house he lived in with his wife and three children, one son and two daughters. He left it and took his seat in an armour-plated car in which he felt equally safe.

The car turned a few corners and headed down the main road toward Munich. The killers lay in wait less than 100 metres along the main road in a clearing amid the fir trees, or so the police feel.

There they detonated a lethal explosive charge against which the best armour plating was powerless.

It is still not clear why the terrorists chose their latest victim. Was he singled out for his own sake as an authority, a leading executive and a man who symbolised the system they rejected?

Or was he merely an executive in an industry they sought to attack — the industry rather than the individual?

So many company executives are potential targets that security experts feel they cannot possibly all be effectively protected.

"All we can do," one expert says, "is constantly remind company staff to *keep their eyes open for weak links in* the security chain."

Professor Beckurts would, however, seem to be a fine symbol for the enemy as the RAF terrorists see it. They have latched on to fears of atomic energy as part of their struggle and he was clear and firm in his support of atoms for peace.

To dispense with atomic energy, he said, would be self-mutilation an industrial nation.

*Peter Schmalz*

(Die Welt, Bonn, 10 July 1986)



Karl Heinz Beckurts . . . advocate of nuclear energy. (Photo: Sven Simon)

# Portrait of a scientist terror victim

Lübecker Nachrichten

Karl Heinz Beckurts, the murdered Siemens executive, was one of the best-known nuclear physicists and advocates of atomic energy in the Federal Republic.

On the Siemens board he was responsible for research and technology, including armaments — to the limited extent that Siemens go in for arms and arms research.

He clearly matched ideally the enemy profile favoured by extremist opponents of atomic energy or armaments.

Professor Beckurts is rumoured to have been associated with President Reagan's SDI research programme but at least officially, there is no confirmation. It is only a few days since the Sie-

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# New generation of brutal killers emerges

The murder of Siemens director Karl Heinz Beckurts, a nuclear physicist associated with SDI research, may prove yet again how closely interlinked international terrorist groups are.

National terrorist squads certainly seem to be forging increasingly close international links.

When General René Audran, arms procurement coordinator to the French government, stepped out of his Renault 20 to open the door of his garage on the outskirts of Paris on 25 January 1985 he had only seconds to live.

An Action Directe killer squad emerged from the evening shadows and killed the helpless general in a hail of bullets.

Seven days later the board chairman of Motoren- und Turbinen-Union (MTU), Ernst Zimmermann, was murdered at his home near Munich.

A man and a woman, members of the Red Army Faction's Patrick O'Hara command, took him by surprise early in the morning, bound and gagged him and shot him in the head. By that evening he was dead.

The crimes were committed hundreds of miles apart but the two murders bore the same imprint.

In virtually identical declarations Action Directe and the RAF claimed the murders, carried out by Western European guerrillas, had shaken the imperialist system.

In April the RAF repeated this coordinated procedure, claiming Audran and Zimmermann had both been representatives of the military-industrial complex.

That is far from the only indication of what is clearly growing cooperation in ideology, strategy and tactics between national terrorist groups in Europe.

Their links are so close that Karlsruhe director of public prosecutions Kurt Rebmann feels their threat potential has been intensified.

Heinrich Boge, head of the *Bundeskriminalamt,* fears collaboration between the RAF and terrorist groups in other countries may lead to a new quality of terrorism.

In a 1982 policy document the RAF called for the creation of a Western European Front. This demand was reiterated in subsequent action and strategy papers.

The declared aim was "to establish Western European guerrilla (organisation) as the politico-military nucleus of a qualitative leap in the international organisation of proletarian struggle in the metropolitan areas."

Early in 1985, a fortnight before the murder of General Audran, Action Directe issued a declaration proclaiming the formation of a terrorist alliance consisting of Action Directe in France, the RAF in Germany and the CCC, or Combatant Communist Cells, in Belgium.

In reality links between the RAF and the CCC are much more longstanding. They date back to 1977 or 1978.

The two underground organisations have since both shared hideouts and organised joint supplies of explosive.

Dynamite stolen in Ecaussines, Belgium, in June 1984 was used in an attempted bombing of the WEU bureau in Paris by Action Directe.

It was also used by the RAF in their attempt to bomb the Nato college in Oberammergau in December 1984 and by "illegal militants" in a bid to bomb the Federal Arms Technology and Procurement Bureau in Koblenz in May

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■ SECURITY

# Missile-based air-defence system outlined

DIE WELT

Nato's European theatre should soon benefit from a defence system extending into outer space and offering protection from both atmospheric bombers and cruise missiles and high-altitude Soviet ballistic missiles.

The project, involving ballistic missiles, was outlined by Hans Rühle, head of planning staff at the Bonn Defence Ministry, at a transatlantic conference on SDI and European Security in Kiel.

In broad outline this project, known as extended air defence, was approved by Nato Defence Ministers at their spring conference on 30 April as submitted by Bonn Defence Minister Manfred Wörner.

But the full extent of the project's political, strategic, financial and arms technology dimensions only became apparent when Herr Rühle went into greater detail.

Europe's extended air defence had very little to do with the US Strategic Defence Initiative, he said.

The SDI project had been launched in response to a longstanding strategic threat posed by Soviet intercontinental ballistic missiles.

The latest Soviet threat to Western Europe was an entirely different matter. It consisted of newly-devised longer-range ballistic missiles aimed solely at targets in Western Europe.

They could carry different warheads, both nuclear and non-nuclear, and could be targeted to a high degree of accuracy.

There were also Soviet cruise missiles and aircraft equipped with equally accurate tactical weapons.

So irrespective of SDI Nato was obliged to set up fresh defences against the new Soviet threat.

The Soviet arms build-up was aimed at using the element of surprise to undermine time-consuming Nato preparations to mobilise forward defence.

In this way Nato could even be deprived of the opportunity of using nuclear weapons based in Europe, an option which undeniably enhanced the West's deterrent capability.

Rühle said experts expect the Soviet Union by the mid-1990s to have an offensive capacity of 1,600 SS 21, 22 and 23 missiles with a range of up to 1,000km (625 miles), between 2,000 and 3,000 cruise missiles with a similar range and about 10,000 aircraft sorties a day.

Target accuracy of their missile systems is assumed to be within 50 metres, so the Warsaw Pact would then be able, with a surprise conventional strike, to paralyse Nato's nerve centre.

In Western Europe, Rühle said, there were between 200 and 300 important targets the destruction of which would make it impossible for Nato "to build up a cohesive forward defence, to mobilise reserves and to land reinforcements from overseas."

Nato's integrated air defences in Europe had long been operational, he said, and were now to be equipped with additional capacity to deal with ballistic missiles.

An ATBM, or anti-tactical ballistic missile, was to be developed. Initially the Patriot missile was to be updated. The requisite reconnaissance and control system would need to rely on satellite data.

*Rüdiger Moniac*

(Die Welt, Bonn, 23 June 1986)

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mens board said the company had yet to be awarded even a single SDI contract. Yet Siemens are active in basic research in the arms sector.

Kraftwerk Union (KWU), a Siemens subsidiary, is one of the world's leading manufacturers of nuclear and conventional power stations.

Beckurts was born on 16 May 1930 in Rheydt. He only joined Siemens, as a member of the board in 1980. He was a leading nuclear physicist and had worked at several nuclear research establishments in the Federal Republic.

He studied physics at Göttingen from *1949 to 1954,* then worked as a research scientist at the Max Planck Physics Institute in Göttingen.

He took his PhD in 1956 and transferred to the Karlsruhe Nuclear Research Establishment two years later. There he first headed the experimental unit at the institute of neutron physics and reactor technology.

From 1963 to 1970, having qualified as a university teacher at Karlsruhe Tech in 1961, he was head of the institute of applied nuclear physics at the Karlsruhe research establishment.

From 1964 to 1966 he also worked in Grenoble and later, until 1969, in Brookhaven, USA.

In 1970 he was appointed scientific and technological manager of the Jülich Nuclear Research Establishment, then, in 1974, board chairman of the company that runs the establishment (it is also in charge of the high-temperature reactor there).

In 1980 Professor Beckurts joined the Siemens board and moved to Munich.

He repeatedly and emphatically declared that he was in favour of atomic energy and warned against abandoning nuclear power, which would, he felt, be tantamount to self-mutilation by an industrialised nation.

He was, as he put it, keen to ensure that the Federal Republic did not lose competitive ground in technological comparison with other countries.

In addition to working at major research facilities and in industry he also taught at the universities of Karlsruhe, Heidelberg and Bonn.

He was chairman of the board of governors of the Max Planck Plasma Physics Institute in Garching, near Munich, and chairman of the senate of the Fraunhofer Society, a scientific research association with which Siemens are associated in an X-ray project.

He was awarded the honorary title of professor by Bonn and Heidelberg universities. He was also a member of the Swedish Royal Academy of Engineering Sciences in Stockholm.

He was associated with fusion research and twice headed an expert group appointed by the European Community to assess fusion research in Europe.

His family consists of a wife and three grown-up children from his first marriage.

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 10 July 1986)

# US Star Wars ambitions come down to earth

Frankfurter Allgemeine

President Reagan was driven by a grand design when he launched his Strategic Defence Initiative three years ago. It was based on the idea of fighting enemy missiles in outer space.

The aim was to stop killing people in nuclear strikes and counter-strikes and to knock out lethal missiles in outer space instead. America, and maybe later Europe, was to become invulnerable to nuclear attack.

An interim SDI review reveals a sobering balance sheet. Major US population centres cannot be protected and America is unlikely in the foreseeable future to be able to station anti-missile systems in outer space in keeping with the President's high hopes.

It is not just a matter of the series of setbacks US space research has suffered this year, setting SDI back years: the Challenger mishap on 28 January, the explosion of a Titan rocket in April and the destruction of a Delta rocket shortly after take-off on 3 May.

Space transport vehicles that work are not all that is lacking. More important still, the most ambitious target of SDI, the destruction of enemy missiles during their take-off stage and over enemy territory, seems to be out of reach.

It could only have been achieved by stationing arms in space in such quantity and by dint of so great a technical and energy outlay that it would, according to official estimates, have taken over half a century of non-stop military space programmes, with at least 24 shuttle flights a year, plus payload rockets.

The men in charge of the SDI project may still sound a note of (guarded) optimism, but behind the scenes SDI has already been scaled down to what is feasible.

It has been reduced to ground-supported final phase defence against incoming missiles.

Space plans have in effect been abandoned, with the exception of killer satellites, on account of the enormous technical difficulties and costs that can no longer even be estimated.

Congressional defence committees of both the House of Representatives and the Senate have accordingly advised cuts in SDI funds.

That will have far-reaching consequences for the Fortress America idea. Effective protection of major population centres from enemy missiles will not be possible.

Always assuming that research projects are a success, protection could only be assured for strictly limited areas, such as missile silos, command centres or key military installations.

Final phase defence also shifts the risk of havoc being wrought by enemy missiles shot down from enemy territory to locations nearer one's own territory.

That puts paid to one of the main military objectives of the SDI programme, that of knocking out enemy missiles over their own territory, thereby striking a twofold destructive blow at the aggressor.

America remains vulnerable and may well be more vulnerable now than ever. While the Soviet Union deploys one medium-range and one mobile intercontinental ballistic missile after another, US plans for an effective second-strike ICBM are still no further than the drawing board.

The Minuteman, now nearly 20 years old, remains the backbone of America's strategic missile potential. There is no new ICBM, above all no mobile ICBM, yet in service.

All efforts have so far been concentrated on SDI, the worth of which may no longer be rated so highly by the next incumbent in the Oval Office.

SDI was supported by Henry Kissinger, for instance, who saw it as the only alternative to reliance on nuclear weapons. Besides, as long as it was still at the research stage, it could be used as a negotiating counter to force the other side to disarm in respect of offensive weapons.

President Reagan seems to have endorsed this reasoning and now makes it clear that he is prepared to negotiate with the Russians, if not about SDI research then at least about the stationing of anti-missile missiles in outer space.

The Russians have responded by offering in Geneva to reduce their offensive weapons, and that is surely an SDI success of no mean importance.

But even if the Russians have a healthy respect for the Americans' technological capability and are thus prepared to hold out the prospect of concessions they aren't blind.

They are naturally well aware that the SDI programme's negotiating clout is not what it initially was now technical and financial difficulties have arisen and Congress is less happy about the expense.

America has neglected the assured second strike concept, even abandoning it for a while, and concentrated on the SDI vision instead. It sought an alternative to the doctrine of mutually assured destruction, and for good reasons.

But it has failed to make the world safer as a result. Indeed, the strategic balance between the two superpowers has definitely tilted in the Soviet Union's favour.

*Fritz Ullrich Fack*

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 8 July 1986)

# Social Democrats

Continued from page 3

Social Democrats have been unable to credibly refute claims that they have also obtained party funds via more shady channels.

In addition, something is bound to stick on the reputation of a number of Social Democrats, even on Rau's personal friends, following the parliamentary investigation into the Neue Heimat affair.

In a recent interview with the union magazine *Metall* Rau again ruled out the possibility of any coalition in Bonn, whether "Grand" or "Red-Green". He is unwilling to be forced into a coalition straitjacket.

However, Rau's bold objective of achieving a political majority for the SPD alone is looking more and more unattainable.

*Helmut Lölhöffel*

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 9 July 1986)

■ THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

# Eternal gulf between cash available and cash needed

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Financing the European Community remains the giant headache it has been for years. Bonn has the feeling that it does most of the paying.

*Britain has waged a long and bitter* battle to reduce its obligatory contributions. Countries that take out more from the Brussels treasury than they pay in fight doggedly to keep it that way.

Now a long-term dispute has developed between Community finance ministers and the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

Members of the European Parliament constantly try to get more and more money for their pet programmes.

At the same time, finance ministries constantly oppose paying into the Community, on the grounds that payments are too high as they are.

A new situation has developed in this argument since the European Court threw out the budget for 1986.

The judges in Luxembourg agreed with complaints by several member-states that the 1986 budget, passed by the European Parliament in defiance of the budget ministers, was illegal.

The Community budget procedure is complicated. The European Commission *in Brussels draws up proposals that* are usually pruned by the Council of Finance Ministers.

The Parliament, as a part of the administration responsible for budgetary matters, writes in increases into the budget.

If all goes well a *compromise* is reached, agreeable in a second reading to the finance ministers and the Parliament.

*In the last few years there has been a* lot of wrangling before the budget was wrapped up.

The 1986 budget was a matter of some importance for the Strasbourg *Parliament. Without any authority the* Parliament approved its higher budget because there was no agreement among the *finance ministers.*

The Commission in Brussels took the *view that this was right and proper.*

Then the judgment of the European Court declared the Parliament's decision to be invalid.

The Community is now in the seventh month of the year without a budget. This severely curbed the MEPs, who were put in their place for the first time by the Court.

They had to accept that the judges had not gone along with their reasons for passing the higher budget.

The view was that the *finance ministers* had been dishonest and had not included all likely expenditures in the budget.

No consideration was taken of the *increases in agricultural expenditures nor* funds to cover the new member countries Spain and Portugal.

The European Court ruling was at first sight a victory for the finance ministers. *The Court gave the opposing* parties a shove to get down and negotiate. Both sides were forced to come to agreement.

This meant that ministers and Parliament had *to start* all over again after they had failed to come to agreement eight months ago.

MEPs can now feel their attitude confirmed, because during an evening deb*ate on 1 July the finance ministers* increased their original proposals.

More funds were allocated to agriculture and more money was provided for the Community's regional and social funds. The weak developing countries in *the south gained the most from this.*

But not all MEPs' expectations were met, although the finance ministers did make concessions to them.

But it would be wrong to put all the *blame on free-spending MEPs and stingy finance ministers:*

The main problem is the gap that exists between the defined goals and political objectives of Community govern*ment leaders and the financial* capacities of the few countries that have to bear the burden of the generous programme drawn up at the summit meeting.

The accession of Spain and Portugal to the Community is the most obvious case in point.

The Community membership of these two was politically desirable and agreed, but the financial consequences were not given enough consideration.

The cash increases provided were no*where near enough to cover other costs* that were increasing rapidly.

The Common Agriculture Policy is swallowing more billions. Financial pledges for more than DM20bn from *the previous year now have to be met.*

The south European countries fight for assistance to strengthen their economies. The dream of a European technological community also costs money. According to the Commission this will cost DM4bn for each of the next five years.

The Community has pulled through after a fashion. It cannot be said that budgetary behaviour has been responsible.

Everyone must see that far-reaching reforms are due. A system in which a *few wealthy countries provide most of* the funds, and in which only a few countries bear the full financial burden is in*herently wrong.*

Anyone can make fresh financial demands knowing that he is not going to be called on to pay.

The Community will get by this year with half solutions, but this will not do for 1987.

*Heinz Stadlmann*

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 3 July 1986)

# Britain takes over the presidency

**Britain has succeeded Holland as President of the European Community. Among its major aims are reforming the Common Agricultural Policy and *opening up the market for transport and insurance.* It has plans to fight unemployment more strongly.**

Britain, in taking over the Community Presidency, also takes over direction of foreign affairs cooperation between the 12.

Among other things, it wants during the *six months to improve* the popularity of the Community in Britain and improve the chances of the Conservative Party in a possible general election next year.

Greater support is to be given to fighting unemployment, particularly helping the long-term jobless and young people.

Mrs Thatcher plans to go all out to alter or dismantle Community guidelines and national legislation among member-*states for the protection of employees if* these measures deter employers from taking on new people.

Workers are to be encouraged to become self-employed or to establish their own firms.

London plans to press ahead with the reform of the common agriculture policy of paying farmers compensation for allowing acreage to remain fallow, that until now has led to over-production in grain and wine, for instance.

At the latest by the end of the year farmers will be informed what assistance they can expect for *cutting back on* other produce, for reafforestation, for environmental protection measures and care for the countryside.

The Community's technology ministers' council should approve the research and technology programme that has been on the stocks for many years, aimed at improving competitity with the USA and Japan. The Council of Ministers has recommended this.

During London's presidency more consideration will be given to the interests of the small member states. Traditionally the larger member-countries — Bonn, Paris, London and Rome — have sought to concentrate Community cash on projects that benefit their industry.

Surprisingly London is prepared to go along with harsh counter-measures *proposed by the Council of Ministers in* the Europe-USA trade war if Washington introduced fresh restrictions on imports of Community produce. Mrs Thatcher sees here a golden opportunity to demonstrate that she is not too pro-American. For the same reason London will do everything possible to direct the foreign affairs cooperation of the 12 to furthering disarmament negotiations between the two superpowers and their blocs.

Furthermore London will make European interests clear to Washington in the trade negotiations between the Community and the East Bloc countries.

British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe is to go to South Africa on behalf of the 12 in order to start off dialogue between the Botha government and all opposition groups, as was decided at the recent summit meeting in the Hague.

The Commonwealth Conference, scheduled to take place in August, may also ask Sir Geoffrey to try to set this dialogue in motion. London will use to *the full its dual function as spokesman* for the two groups, the Community and the Commonwealth.

London thinks that in the next six months European governments will make no new initiatives for peace in the Middle East. The London view is that there is no recognisable starting-point for peace in the region.

*Erich Hauser*

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 1 July 1986)

# Trade war with US stops — but for how long?

Mannheimer MORGEN

The United States and the European Community have buried the trade *war hatchet* for six months. But how long the peace will last after that is another question.

The USA has agreed to drop import restrictions on Community agricultural produce of all kinds it threatened to introduce on 1 July.

In return the Community has dropped the retaliatory measures that threatened to limit imports of US agricultural products into Europe.

So this year the agricultural produce trade war has not escalated. More importantly the danger that it could spill *over into the vital industrial* sector has been avoided.

For Europe this is the most important aspect of the truce.

The Community has agreed to allow America to export maize, sorghum corn gluten feed, distillers' yeast and *citrus pellets between now* and December at a guaranteed level for all five products of 234,000 tons a month, an average figure per month during 1985.

The US has dropped import restric*tions on European produce.*

The differences over steel exports are to be dealt with by a *special council* of ministers.

In the recent agricultural dispute the Americans also demand compensation for the limits imposed on their exports *of grain and oilseeds to Spain* as a result of Spanish membership of the Common Market.

Europe rejected this referring to Gatt.

The compromise does not guarantee that the dispute will not be revived next *year. In the background there looms* the possibility of a more serious wrangle between the two — the world's largest exporters of agricultural produce, over safeguards for their shares in the inter*national grain and butter market.*

The source of this costly trade war, financed by subventions provided by tax-payers, is US internal government problems.

The agricultural lobby in the US has forced President Reagan to climb down *after his solemn espousal* of the concept of free world trade at the Toyko economic summit.

He had to order import restrictions (spaghetti and so on). The Europeans showed their mettle by replying in kind with counter-measures.

Jacques Delors, president of the European Community Commission, said that the Europeans would not give ground to the Americans because these actions harmed negotiations.

The legal position was cleared up to the advantage of the Europeans, but the Americans have more power to their political elbow.

International agreements, such as Gatt, are only of value if the strongest abide by them. That is fundamentally the problem in the trans-Atlantic trade war.

*Hans Wimmer*

(Mannheimer Morgen, 4 July 1986)



■ LABOUR

# Social organisations arrange job-training projects — in spite of some objections

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Most people support the idea of doing more to help unemployed youngsters find a job and keeping them off the streets.

*But things look different when this* means making some kind of personal sacrifice.

In the Hochzoll-Süd district of Augsburg, for example, local residents are *not too keen on having a youth employ*ment project set up just 100 metres from their homes.

Karl Kramer, the vice-president of the Swabian Trade Corporation and a tenant in the block of *flats which is do*ing most of the complaining, has written to all political parties in the city hall, to the mayor of Augsburg and to the local press to try and prevent the project.

Although *he feels that* "these youngsters must be helped" he doesn't want "*problem cases*" on his own doorstep.

*He claims* to have the backing of the owner of the flats, Hans Richter, and his fellow tenants.

A special citizen's initiative is worried that this "green" district of Augsburg could become a "slum" area if the project is carried out.

Augsburg's mayor, Hans Breuer (SPD), called the reaction a "new form of egoism".

A recent "information evening", during which CSU member Richter outlined the problem from his own angle, showed how intolerant the citizens in this area are.

When a youth stood up to express his support for the *Jugendtreff* project *many in the audience started laughing* and half of the people simply left the room.

What exactly does the project hope to achieve?

*The idea is to give 50 young* people the opportunity over a two-year period to learn how to handle clay as a building material and at the same time familiarise themselves with virtues such as punctuality, discipline and reliability.

Some of these teenagers have been out of work for years.

The project was included in Augsburg's supplementary budget for 1986 and will cost the city DM180,000; the rest will be paid by the Federal Labour Office.

The Augsburg initiative is not the only one of its kind.

In the diocese of Essen, for example, 1,100 priests contributed half of their *13th* month's salary towards the creation *of 15 additional* trainee jobs at the Krupp steelworks.

*The priests'* donations will finance the wages of the prospective mechanics, smithys, electronics experts and fitters, whereas the firm itself will bear the training costs.

As Klaus Hellmich from the bishopric's press office pointed out this is a step in the right direction.

In the wake of this gesture the Catholic Employees' Movement (KAB) called upon its members to donate one mark a month to help relieve youth unemployment.

The DM700,000 raised were used to help 25 girls get trainee positions as office secretaries.

Members of various Catholic orga*nisations sold "training shares" on the* market square and from door to door, each worth DM5, DM10 or DM20.

The money raised formed a special fund which helped create 103 additional training places in craft industries and small and medium-sized firms.

For the 80 entrepreneurs involved, however, the monthly transfer of DM300 *per trainee was only an "incen*tive" and certainly didn't cover actual training costs.

This particular case, Hellmich emphasised, showed just how much indus*try can do for the 150,000 unemployed* young people in the Federal Republic of Germany with a bit of money and good will.

"After all," he added, "we had more jobs than young people looking for jobs."

All this makes it all the more difficult to understand the opposition to the *Jugendtreff* project in Augsburg.

The spectacular attempt by the former mayor of Saarbrücken and current *state premier* of Saarland, Oskar Lafontaine, to persuade public employees to sacrifice their 13th month's salary to finance training places for young people is another of the more positive aproaches to solving the problem of youth unemployment.

Only 23 of Saarbrücken's 3,300 or so *municipal authority employees heeded* his call and Lafontaine's campaign remained no more than a "small contribution" to his more comprehensive Programme to Fight the Job Problems of Young People.

The regional public service and transport workers union ÖTV, however, warned against the misuse of the programme by private industry.

The financing of training places via donations is in itself praiseworthy, the *union claimed, but "free ride effects"* must be avoided.

The union also raised the question whether private donors should in fact be called upon to finance this kind of *programme.*

It might be more effective, critics have pointed out, if "the government" were to make industry more aware of its social responsiblity by, for example, imposing some kind of training levy.

Guido Freidinger, head of the labour policy department in Saarbrücken, explained that many civil servants had asked themselves why they should pay money to "compensate for mistakes made by the government" at a time when it would be better to give the money to the starving of this world.

Bavaria's economics minister, Anton Jaumann, rejects the idea of giving preferential treatment when placing public contracts to firms which have a comparatively large number of training places.

According to the proposal, it doesn't *even matter* whether the bids tendered by these firms are more expensive than firms with no training places.

Minister Jaumann was in no way impressed by the fact that the city of Dort*mund had already put this idea into* practice, not only with the approval but at the request of the North Rhine-Westphalia.

Although the implementation of this proposal didn't lead *to an enormous in*crease in the number of training places about 40 of the bidders in Dortmund were those with the largest number of training places and not those with the cheapest bids.

The contract to lay new bricks for the Dortmund city hall, for example, was awarded to a firm which at a price of DM37,500.

Although another firm offered its services for DM37,100 the former was able to employ two trainees.

There's hardly a serious social institution which doesn't try to help unemployed young people.

The list of these institutions sounds *like a socio-political Who's Who.*

Church organisations, sports clubs, workers' welfare associations, trade unions, craftsmen's guilds, chambers of commerce, cities, districts, regions and *states, all at the ready to sponsor* projects providing training places and jobs for young people.

Often advised and financially supported by the Federal Labour Office *they vie with each other to create* new concepts and remedies for success.

Most of them, however, indicate the helplessness of such efforts.

Perhaps a youngster will find employment as an ABM employee (ABM: job creation scheme), as a result of the MBSE job preparation and social integration programme for foreigners, in a TÜW training workshop or as part of the BBH federally funded occupational training programme.

A *scheme called "Working and* Learning" is pretty popular at the moment, since the scheme's participants go to school in the morning and to work in the afternoon.

*Another reason for the popularity of* this particular scheme is the fact that its primary target group are those unemployed persons who represent the biggest problem for the employment agen*cies: unskilled workers.*

After years without any kind of training or employment people in this group are often regarded as "unable and unwilling to work."

The Augsburg project of building a clay house is one attempt to help members of this group.

There are innumerous projects aimed at keeping young people busy until they get a proper job.

They range from a holiday for the unemployed with the aim of discussing problems and playing dice (Würzburg) to sorting out the waste dragged out of the Alster lake in Hamburg.

Perhaps it would help the despondent *young people more* if they weren't branded as social outsiders.

In a study on this problem the Youth Work Foundation in Bavaria writes the following:

"*Despite the fact that millions of peo*ple are affected the general socio-political discussion stilll treats unemployment as a minority problem.

The opinion still prevails that those *who are unemployed are either too* demanding, unwilling or unable to work."

The fact that young people are "generally unable to perceive the socio-*structural conditions underlying their* unemployment and thus feel that they are personally to blame for this failure" is an even more serious problem.

Many young people then reach the stage where no organisation or programme, no matter how good it is, can create work for them or motivate them to keep their jobs.

The project leaders and politicians in the cities and municipalities have come to realise that unemployment hits young people particularly hard.

During a conference of urban development experts from the Federation of German Towns and Cities in Flensburg one expert explained that the German municipalities lose DM900m every year in the form of unpaid income tax because of unemployment.

*In addition*, an increasing number of unemployed people have been out of work for so long that they are no longer entitled to the unemployment benefit (paid by the Federal Labour Office) and are then dependent on social security money (paid by the municipal authorities).

Experts agree that the cities will suffer most if youth unemployment results in a greater number of permanent social "drop-outs".

Such a development could lead to apathy, aggressiveness, lethargy, vandalism and extremism.

Since self-help and self-government are guiding principles of a functioning *democracy at local level the political* system itself may then be in jeopardy.

Considerations of this kind may be one reason why the clay house project in Augsburg will be given the official go-ahead.

The project is supported by a political majority in the city hall.

During a public meeting to discuss the project one 18-year-old girl who *lives in the Hochzoll-Süd district of* Augsburg gave vent to her frustration at the reaction of many local residents.

When she was a child, she explained, she used to play in the nearby potato fields.

Nobody asked her whether she was "shocked" at the fact that houses were built on these fields.

Now, however, the people who moved into those houses suddenly feel "shocked" at the idea of having young people doing building work just around the corner, i.e. the same people who forced her to play somewhere else when she was a child.

"This is something I just cannot understand," she remarked.

*Dieter Baur*

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 9 July 1986)

Continued from page 4

1985. Last but not least, dynamite from Ecaussines was used in a bomb raid on an electronics company in Charleroi, Belgium, in June 1985.

The murder of Karl Heinz Beckurts was said by Heribert Hellenbroich, former head of the *Verfassungsschutz* in Cologne, to call to mind the modus op*erandi of the Basque terrorist organisa*tion ETA.

It was certainly in keeping with the strategic and ideological concept of terrorist organisations.

The RAF is keen to step up its attacks on company executives, while Action Directe sees military research and technology projects as the main targets for attack.

"The RAF and Action Directe," says an officer investigating the Beckurts *murder in Munich*, "are proving to be a new generation of brutal killers."

(Handelsblatt, Düsseldorf, 10 July 1986)

■ PUBLISHING

# Bertelsmann, the house that took the fight for book sales out to the world

**The writer of this article, Gerd Bucerius, is proprietor of the Hamburg weekly *Die Zeit*. He here reviews the career of fellow-publisher Reinhard Mohn, Bertelsmann chief executive, who is 65.**

Before Bertelsmann's Gütersloh publishing division was banned by the Nazis in 1943 and the printing works were bombed just before the end of the war the Bertelsmann Group, owned by the Mohn family, employed 400 people and had an annual turnover of eight million marks.

By 1945 the payroll was down to 200 and turnover down to 700,000 marks.

In 1984/85 Group turnover totalled DM7.5bn. The trade works on a pre-tax profit margin of eight per cent.

Third parties now hold a stake in Bertelsmann. John Jahr retains a 25.1-per-cent stake in its Hamburg publishing subsidiary, Gruner + Jahr. So he is entitled to a quarter of Gruner + Jahr's profits. A third of group profits are accounted for by similar partners.

Initially the Bertelsmann Group was viewed reservedly, not to say critically, by the media and the general public. They associated it with book clubs and book clubs are decidedly untrendy.

By the time group turnover reached DM5bn the press began to pay Bertelsmann more attention. *Die Zeit*, for instance, voiced fears that the group might falter.

That would be bad news for a current payroll of 31,835 earning nearly DM2bn a year in wages, salaries and perks.

Bertelsmann could claim to have had greatness thrust upon it. The family firm used to publish Protestant books and staid political literature. The big time came more or less by coincidence.

The publishing side was re-established after the war and supplied booksellers on a sale-or-return basis — like many other publishers.

So booksellers could return books unsold. They suddenly returned virtually an entire year's output — worthless paper rather than the cash flow any company would sooner see.

Bertelsmann were left with no choice but to try and sell directly to readers and book buyers.

But book clubs were nothing new. A new idea was what was needed. Bertelsmann's Reinhard Mohn ran his book club in joint harness with booksellers and allowed them a say in how it was run.

That was a truly brilliant idea. They built up the club jointly. It proved popular and a threshold had been crossed.

Booksellers no longer saw Bertelsmann as competition; they defended Gütersloh in public. A Mohn masterstroke!

A further masterstroke arose from the problem that some members were either unable or unwilling to make their monthly or quarterly selection. They were unfamiliar with catalogues and did nothing rather than do anything wrong.

So the editor's choice was introduced. Members who failed to place an order were sent a specially selected "main choice."

One can well imagine publisher's readers wondering whether to select, say, Hesse's *Glasperlenspiel* or the latest Will Heinrich potboiler!

Mohn was keen to keep in contact with his readers, so members were regularly mailed details of tempting special offers and bumper catalogues.

Bertelsmann grew into by far the world's largest book club. In 1951 it had 52,000 members in Germany and none abroad. In 1985 it had 4,691,000 in Germany and 12,971,000 abroad: a grand total of 12,971,000.

Bertelsmann book clubs earn valuable foreign exchange. Group turnover is now higher abroad than in the Federal Republic and the Group earns more abroad too, much to the Bundesbank's satisfaction.

There can be no denying that book club trade has lost momentum in the Federal Republic. No-one really knows why. Growth rates are a fond memory; they alone earn higher profits, overheads remaining the same.

Bertelsmann's critics promptly proclaim, with outward dismay and covert glee, that the Group has naturally fallen on hard times. Book clubs, after all, were what made Bertelsmann great.

What they forget is that Reinhard Mohn decided to put German book club know-how to good use abroad at a time when it was hard and expensive work. And it paid dividends. His French club, France Loisirs, founded in 1970, has 4.3 million members.

Bertelsmann have a half-share in the firm and manage it. In 1984/85 earnings after tax were DM41m, half of which was remitted to Gütersloh, and business is still growing.

Bertelsmann book clubs are run in 19 countries, with half a dozen having been wound up as unprofitable. The Group's US venture was wound up with losses totalling DM34m.

But sound and steady profits are posted from Portugal, Austria, Switzerland and Holland. In Britain his Leisure Circle already has 280,000 members in what, by many standards, is a poor country.

Millions are invariably at stake whenever new ideas are launched. An ingenious system relays figures from all over the world to Group head office in Gütersloh so fast that the management know within weeks how subsidiaries are faring.

I know of no company that can react as promptly as Bertelsmann to success or failure in far-flung outposts. This is surely one of the secrets of their success.

Yet even the best idea soon ages nowadays, as managers often fail to appreciate. Licences to print money no longer last a lifetime.

Bertelsmann bought its first 25 per cent of Gruner + Jahr, the publishers of *Stern*, *Brigitte*, *Capital*, *Schöner Wohnen*, *Geo*, *Art* etc., in 1969 for DM80m.

In those days that was an enormous sum of money for the Group, but it went on to increase its stake to 74.9 per cent. Gruner + Jahr are the best performers in the Bertelsmann stables.

Does that make the original decision to buy a brilliant idea? By all means, but it is an idea that is only to be had by monitoring all conceivable markets for years and digesting thousands of facts and figures even though only a fraction of them will ever be of any use.

Company decisions are often reached with wobbly knees. If a market factor has gone unnoticed or a trend has been misread or an economic upswing ends sooner than expected the entire company can go to the wall.

The nightmare prospect every entrepreneur faces is that of having to tell staff who have placed their faith in him: "We've failed to make the grade and are going to have to shrink to survive."

That then means redundancy and an uncertain future for several thousand employees.

Incidentally, Gruner + Jahr launched



**Drinks seldom and dilutes his coffee... Reinhard Mohn.**

(Photo: J.H. Darchinger)

a new women's magazine, *Femme Actuelle*, in France in 1984. It is already selling 1,700,000 copies. Who can rival that for performance?

The Group's US activities have proved profitable. The American edition of *Geo*, a successful magazine in Germany, was scrapped after losses totalling DM100m. But printing plant purchased in the United States has already earned that kind of money seven times over.

A number of ideas may not have been Mohn's own but he can fairly claim to have put theory into practice. Staff of the parent company and several subsidiaries have built up a DM400m stake by way of profit-sharing schemes. Reserves accumulated in the staff pension fund for 16,600 employees total DM750m.

The trade unions would be happier and DGB general secretary Ernst Breit would be an easier man to get on with if German industry as a whole had followed Bertelsmann's example.

Is Mohn's active life as an entrepreneur over now he is 65? About 10 years ago he told me creative capacity was exhausted by 60, so that was to be the age limit at Bertelsmann.

Was that to apply to him too? Oh yes, he said. Was he really going to retire and leave well alone? Definitely. That would have been that.

At 60 he was supervisory board chairman, highly paid (in keeping with his performance) and conversant with every major aspect of company business.

Yet he has found time to arrive, for instance, at the conclusion that supervisory boards (the highest of the German

Continued on page 9



Continued from page 8

two-tier company board system) are a weak link in company law.

They are paid too much for what they do and too little for their legal responsibility.

He compared the German and Anglo-Saxon systems of company management. In Germany supervisory and executive boards are separate; in America and Britain there is only one executive board.

In America and Britain all board members share responsibility for all decisions. They learn the business inside out. They can exercise effective control and inject new ideas. But there is no authority independent of the management board to monitor its performance.

Mohn chose to combine the advantages of both systems. Many more supervisory board sessions were held, with remuneration in keeping with performance. Supervisory directorships are no longer jobs for the boys; it is hard work.

At Bertelsmann it works, as I know from personal experience. Reinhard Mohn has reconciled the two systems in practice even if management theory has yet to take notice of the fact.

He doesn't smoke and drinks only when he must. He even dilutes his coffee. But he cannot be said to have given up all life's pleasures.

He has been extremely successful at making arrangements for his family, which is always complicated with such a large firm, as I again know from personal experience.

His successor as chief executive will be appointed by a panel of expert advisers. Continuity, not love of the family, is his aim.

*Gerd Bucerius*

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 27 June 1986)

■ MOTORING

# Preventing traffic jams is as easy as c(p) = dp (p)/dp

Reinhart Kühne, a 40-year-old Ulm physicist, has shown that autobahn traffic jams can be forecast more exactly by means of a mathematical model he describes in an article in *Physik in unserer Zeit* magazine.

He has described it at universities at home and abroad. A Stuttgart engineering bureau is checking whether it can be incorporated in a traffic control system.

Equations such as $c(p) = dq(p)/dp$ might make motoring less trouble.

Kühne says motorists in autobahn traffic behave like raindrops. If they come in sufficient numbers they will form waves on the asphalt.

Stop and go traffic runs in waves. These traffic waves behave more as if they had to follow some law of physics than any pattern of psychology.

So Kühne applies the physical laws of *phase transition* to traffic jams. The best-known *phase* transition is one that confronts every housewife when she puts the breakfast coffee on.

You can heat water in any way you want. At about 100° C it starts to boil and let off steam: to evaporate. A similar principle applies in traffic.

Twelve, 15 or 18 cars per kilometre can drive without difficulty on a one-kilometre section of autobahn lane. But 20 is the point at which problems begin because traffic density is too high.

In other words, once the number of cars registered at a given point exceeds 1,700 an hour the traffic density becomes critical and the phenomenon physicists call phase transition (and motorists call a traffic jam) can occur.

Housewives know that a kettle starts to whistle before the water boils. Kühne has identified the corresponding phenomenon in road traffic. Traffic grows uneven just before it grinds to a halt.

More cars drive much more slowly than usual and more drive faster. This "head of steam" can be eased by imposing temporary speed limits or bans on overtaking.

What then happens is that despite the critical traffic density more cars stay on the move, preventing the stop and go of traffic congestion.

Kühne makes another culinary comparison to explain why this is so. If you use a pressure cooker, he says, you can heat water to 110° C without it boiling.

There are clearly limits beyond which traffic jams are inevitable. They are about 20 per cent higher than the critical density. "Once traffic is too dense there is nothing more you can do," he says.

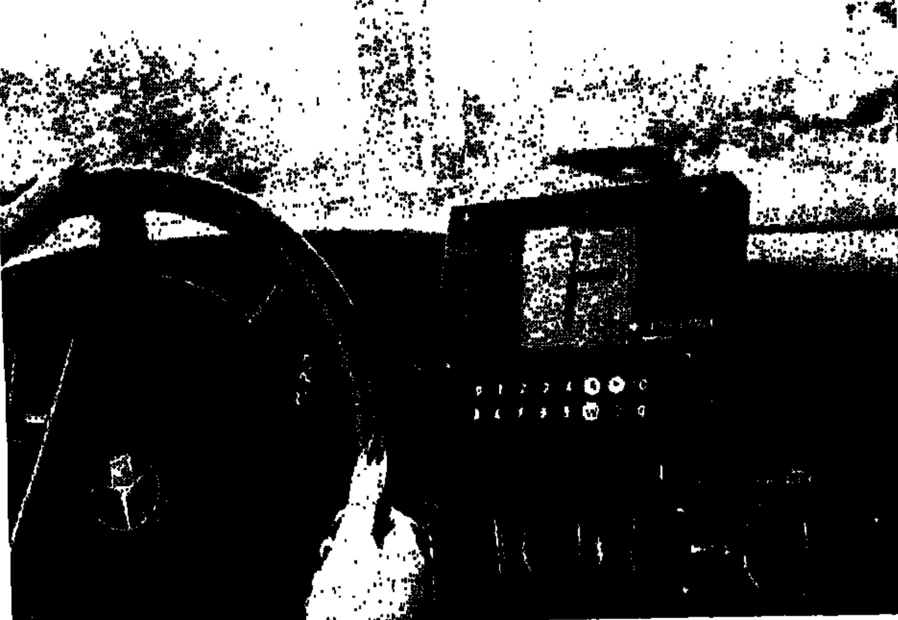
He has shown that speed limits can, in certain circumstances, help to keep traffic on the move at a higher speed than would otherwise be possible.

He is now waiting to see his ideas put into practice. It is, he says, slow going. But the technical prerequisites exist.

Electronic traffic control systems are in operation in many towns. Kühne's computations are simply more complex than the usual traffic computer fare.

To keep the kettle firmly on the hob, at least figuratively, the hotplate can be switched off when the kettle starts to whistle. The water will then not boil and, by the same token, the traffic jam will not occur.

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 30 June 1986)



**Lost no more. Automated direction finding equipment.**

(Photo: Blaupunkt)

# Car telephone soon for every Tom, Dirk and Helmut

KielerNachrichten

Nearly every car in the country is expected to have a car phone in 30 years. By then it will probably cost no more than the price of a colour TV set.

Bosch of Stuttgart have set the pace for mobile communications. Experts put today's sales potential in Europe at DM6bn. It might eventually increase to more than DM15bn a year.

Bosch have been in the business for decades with car radios, cab radio systems, ARI traffic information systems and compact disc road and street maps.

The most longstanding item in the mobile communications package is the car radio, which will continue to remain a cornerstone of Bosch activities.

Car radios are capable of further development. They have long ceased to be merely adapted household radios.

They are now likely to used as bases for data centres for road and street maps and for emergency calls and traffic reports.

It remains to be seen whether motorists will ever be able to sit down at the wheel, type into the keyboard where they want to go and leave the car to get on with the driving.

Visions of the fully automated vehicle leaving the motorist time to read the paper, telephone, use dashboard computers or simply converse with passengers may be wishful thinking.

*rwd*

(Kieler Nachrichten, 9 July 1986)

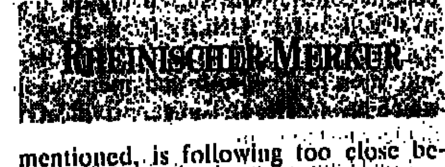
# Driving manners getting worse, motorists tell researchers

Driving seems to be getting worse despite efforts by road safety organisations, a survey reveals.

Road safety campaigns have had little effect: Only 27 per cent of motorists questioned in a survey by Aachen tyre manufacturer Uniroyal feel traffic behaviour has grown more considerate in recent years.

Most, 53 per cent, feel there has been no improvement and 18 per cent feel there has been a deterioration.

Autobahn driving is ranked the worst. The worst fault, and most often




mentioned, is following too close behind.

About one motorist in three feels sufficiently provoked by the car behind to react, often dangerously, by either braking or staying longer in the fast lane.

The result is often overtaking on the inside lane, which is both dangerous and prohibited.

In urban traffic the most frequent causes of ill-will at the wheel are tussles for parking lots and sudden switching of traffic lanes.

On country roads most motorists felt traffic conditions were virtually idyllic. Fast (too fast) driving and risky overtaking manoeuvres were the only complaints.

Cologne traffic expert Dieter Ellinghaus says motorists mainly behave badly because they are either frustrated or in a hurry.

Few road-users appreciate how others feel. For example, drivers of fast cars often feel motorcyclists are a menace. They feel challenged, envious, and envy can easily trigger aggression.

Motorcyclists feel their bike is a fully-fledged motor vehicle and drive in the middle of the road. Car-drivers tend to dismiss them as two-wheelers on a par with pushbikes and mopeds who ought to be restricted to the side of the road.

Prejudice pays a leading role in deciding road-users whether to behave as partners or as rivals. Forty-three per cent feel the make of car a motorist drives influences the way he drives it.

Drivers of compacts fare best in general esteem. They are felt to be disposed toward partnership, whereas drivers of family saloons and larger cars are felt to be on the ruthless side.

Sports car-drivers and motorcyclists are felt to be the most ruthless and inconsiderate of all road-users.

Men and women are felt to behave differently too. Women are seen as more considerate and men, especially young men, as mainly aggressive.

Minor details often trigger a chain reaction. One person in three questioned admits to having felt upset or even insulted by being overtaken.

This lays the groundwork for inconsiderate behaviour, given that this frustration must be worked off somehow or other. Most men and one woman driver in three try to frustrate the overtaker.

Traffic experts say there are only two satisfactory reactions. You must either take it easy and not allow yourself to be upset or let off steam by swearing.

The best way to avoid being inconsiderate in traffic, Herr Ellinghaus says, is to start early and avoid having to rush.

Above all, road-users must be able to visualise the other person's position and so develop tolerance and prevent tension from mounting.

*Walther Wuttke*

(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, Bonn, 4 July 1986)

■ THE ARTS

# Putting Schleswig-Holstein on the music map

**Mozart's Mass in C minor, performed at Lübeck cathedral, was the opening event in an ambitious festival season lasting nearly two months and featuring 84 classical music concerts. It is the brainchild of pianist Professor Justus Frantz, 42.**

People like to be associated with success. As it became clear that the *Schleswig-Holstein music festival* would be successful, more and more people claimed to have first thought of it.

Justus Frantz briefly stakes his claim, saying: "Every year Helmut Schmidt is my guest at my home in Gran Canaria. He comes in January for a break and to read and play music.

"It was there that we had the idea for the festival. We talked it over with (Schleswig-Holstein) Premier Uwe Barschel when he visited Gran Canaria and he energetically and imaginatively urged us to hold it in Schleswig-Holstein.

"All manner of silly ideas strike you while you are on holiday. If we had all known then what hard work and obligations lay head we might well have had second thoughts."

This, then, in brief is the tale of three men who by a fortunate coincidence had a good idea in a good mood. If only everything ran so smoothly in practice!

Professor Frantz, a friendly person, prefers not to say how non-infectious his enthusiasm proved from the wrong side of many a civil servant's desk. The idea sounded too far-fetched.

"I don't hold with doing things by halves," he says. "We want the festival to take Schleswig-Holstein by storm, and you can't do that with a handful of concerts."

Success breeds optimism, and optimism is warranted now stars such as Leonard Bernstein, Yehudi Menuhin, Sviatoslav Richter, Anne-Sophie Mutter, Christoph Eschenbach, Brigitte Fassbaender, Hermann Prey, Peter Schreier, Krystian Zimmermann and Claudio Arrau have agreed to take part.

That is not including Justus Frantz himself, who says that if names are any guide Schleswig-Holstein is already one of the world's five foremost music festivals.

Last year Schleswig-Holstein was still marked white on the world's music map. Frantz, a keen Porsche-owner, drove round canvassing support. His friendship with the stars was invaluable, not to say his sole initial capital.

"Among professional musicians," he says, "engagements are accepted on three conditions.

"The prestige must be right; we hadn't any of that to offer yet. The pay must be right; we couldn't make any firm advance commitments. And no-one was familiar with the attractive countryside."

But there were new ideas too, and they were what decided Leonard Bernstein to become one of the first stars to agree to appear.

**Laughing all the way to the concert. Former Bonn Chancellor Helmut Schmidt (left) with Professor Frantz, in Lübeck.** (Photo: [illegible])

"Tickets were to be inexpensive so as to make classical music more democratic. Young people were to be included. We are doing much by way of new music, setting up a summer academy with outstanding teachers and the society in charge of the festival.

"In short," Frantz says, "Bernstein was convinced by the youthful image the festival projected."

It took all year to prepare, with six months' concentrated work on the festival programme. Frantz's pace ran away with him and at times he had to make do with four hours' sleep.

"I misjudged it," he says. "I am a musician, not a manager, and it was music that enabled me to withstand the strain. When I was exhausted I sat down at the piano.

"Music is like meditation. It forces you to calm down and be introspective. During the festival preparations I learnt six new Mozart piano concertos. In the weeks ahead I will be playing 240 piano concertos by Mozart alone."

He says there need be no fear he will come to prefer managing music to playing it. His musical ambition will take the rest of his life.

"I have set my mind on interpreting everything Beethoven, Mozart and Brahms ever wrote to a standard I myself can accept," he says.

Frantz is a three-career man at the moment. He is a pianist, holds a chair at the Hamburg college of music and is a festival manager and impresario.

He tries to draw a clear line between the three. "When I'm busy on one job I can't stop to think about the other. That would tear me apart inwardly and throw me totally off balance."

But he isn't entirely successful. At night, after concert performances, he reverts to his managerial role, phoning round the world from his car.

America comes first, then — bearing in mind the time difference — Japan. This part of the work is well worthwhile:

"About 40 concerts will be broadcast. That is sensational for a first-time festival. It alone has upstaged many another factor."

Frantz constantly refers to the concept of cultural tourism, saying the festival will attract visitors from all over the world, bringing business for hotels and caterers. The frank and open way in which he stresses this angle is typical of Schleswig-Holstein.

Frantz himself was born in Lower Silesia but spent his childhood in the Testorf manor house, within sight of Bungsberg, went to primary school in Hansühn and secondary school ("not a very distinguished student, I'm afraid") in Kiel.

He decided before taking his *Abitur*, or higher school certificate, that he wanted to study music. "I realised it was more important to me than anything else," he says. He studied the piano and conducting in Hamburg.

These personal data may help to explain his love of Lübeck, which he would like to see become a Salzburg of the North.

"Lübeck," he says, "is unique in architectural beauty. The link between great architecture and great music is readily apparent.

"If we all work hard we can, in the long term, make Lübeck a real hub of the music world. It is an artistic disgrace that nearly everyone in America has heard of Neuschwanstein but next to no-one of Lübeck."

So this too is a task for cultural tourism to fulfil, and initial success resounded even before the festival began. "We have gained international attention," he says. "American and Japanese TV have run previews.

"Fifteen bookings a day are coming in at our US agency. There are more enquiries than we have tickets to sell."

The organisers may regret having to turn people down, but a fully booked concert works wonders for the festival's finances. The festival society, sponsors, patrons and donors have all given generously to launch the festival, "but much more is needed.

"I hope we will succeed in largely financing the festival by means of domestic and foreign sponsors and donations from America and Japan.

"In Japan we plan to set up a society of friends of the Schleswig-Holstein Music festival. Something similar is planned in America. We already have a society of friends in London.

"But this all presupp[illegible]tival is a great success."

For some festival venues it already has been. "We already have DM150,000 in bookings for the L[illegible] con[illegible]

"The barn in Hasselburg has been fireproofed and we are trying to make the Ostseehalle in Kiel bearable so that Bernstein feels at home in it.

"The open-air theatre in Eutin has been roofed over to improve the acoustics. We can't expect to recoup all these investments immediately, but I very much hope donors will help us to balance our books by the year's end."

Hopefully they will, then plans for the years to come can go ahead. This summer is certainly a musical one in Schleswig-Holstein.

Justus Frantz says the festival is [illegible] on fine local tradition. Schleswig-Holstein has always put its heart in its music [illegible] been less snobbish about it than [illegible] elsewhere, he says. So let us give [illegible] ing.

*Klaus J. [illegible]*

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 29 [illegible])

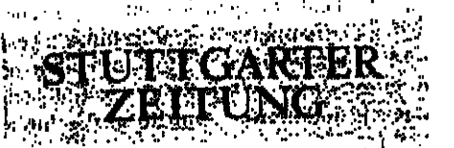






■ THE CINEMA

# Pompous Hollywood tones plus empty seats in a bunker





The main complaint about this year's Munich Film Festival is that it was at the sterile Munich Kulturzentrum.

The gala opening with its pompous Hollywood-like overtones only made things worse.

There were empty seats during the festival in both the main auditorium and in two halls where films were also being shown. This was not entirely the fault of the hot summer weather.

"Perhaps cinema films should be shown in cinemas. But, then, cinema showings were of secondary importance at this year's event.

*The festival organiser, Eberhard Hauff, took the* show to this cultural bunker despite fears by some enthusiasts that it was not a good idea.

*Petitions* were drawn up, but to no avail and the event became a hybrid between stuffy university student fête and an affair of state with all the trimmings.

Various receptions and private get-togethers of insiders underlined the tendency towards the exclusive nature of the festival, although Hauff hotly disputes this.

The public stayed away. Those screenings that were sold out were in the main watched by film people and journalists. Perhaps this is an indication that the festival needs changing.

It wasn't because of the films on offer — there were too many for that.

The nine-day programme of 150 international, European and German films, had even the experts working flat out to separate the wheat from the chaff.

The public that did come were mostly young. They went for independent American film-makers and new German releases.

But even they did not have much to offer this year. Other programmes were righ with exciting discoveries.

There is obviously an urgent need for better information about the films being shown with notes beforehand about the programmes.

The latest German and German-language films were just depressing. They lacked resolution and there seemed to be *uncertainty* about tone. The scripts were not clear, [illegible] tudes uncertain.

This is more a psychological problem than a cinéaste difficulty.

The Perspective of European Films was more satisfactory, because it convincingly had the courage to be less than perfect and explored exciting themes.

Portuguese, Yugoslav and French entries made a lasting impression.

Andrej Mlakar's *Christopharus* honestly and excitingly presented the ideological conflicts in Tito's Yugoslavia.

Willy Rameau's film *Familienband*, with Jean Marais in the main role, was a serious comedy about current racial and generation problems in France.

The efforts of the European Film Festival, part of the Munich festival, to underline new tendencies in European film-making at a symposium was something of a flop.

The disunity among European film-makers seems to increase rather than disappear, along with the solidarity required to counter Hollywood's all-prevailing power.

Only films made in countries that have just taken to film-making seemed to show a fresh approach and tackle subjects with determination — Australia, China, Chile and Cyprus.

The satire on Georgian culture in *Blaue Berge*, and the Australian contribution *Fran*, a study of small town intolerance, were brilliant.

The vitality of these new film countries was in evidence in the many workshop discussions with directors in question and answer sessions, although the answers were sometimes only given timorously.

This encounter between film fans and film-makers is the most satisfactory aspect of the Munich festival.

Among those directors present were the Chilean Miguel Littin of *Flight of the Condor* fame, the new Italian star Francesco Nuti, Austrian director Axel Corti, who made *Wohin und zurück*, and Sergio Leone, who explained his work from *A Hand-full of Dollars* to *Once upon a time in America*.

He gave the impression that he hoped he had imparted something political in his Westerns.

Two events on the fringe of the Munich festival high-lighted Bavarian official attitudes to the film.

The documentary distribution association announced that it had found an answer to the lack of financial support for documentary films.

Then the Bavarian public prosecutor's office said that original documentary material, collected by Günter Wallraff, whose film *Ganz unten* deals with the plight of Turkish workers in this country, had been confiscated.

Eberhard Hauff kept the main attraction of the festival to the end, Bernhard Sinkel's eight-and-a-half-hour long *Väter und Söhne*.

This is an important and penetrating insight into German history and the German mentality.

Sinkel knows how to portray grippingly the development of the chemicals organisation IG Farben and its involvement in both world wars, woven round the story of a family.

The cast is excellent, particularly Bruno Ganz in the contradictory role of the Nobel Prize-winner for chemistry Beck, Tina Engel as his emancipated but obedient wife, and Burt Lancaster and Julie Christie as her father and sister-in-law.

This is not a work of art like the poetry of Edgar Reitz's *Heimat*, introduced at the last film festival, but it is a huge, complicated, intelligent film.

*Günter Jurczyk*

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 4 July 1986)



**Norman Mailer turns film-maker**

**American novelist Norman Mailer (*The American Dream*, *The Naked and the Dead*) has turned film-maker. His documentary, *The Sanction to Write*, was shown at the Munich Film Festival.** (Photo: Sternberg)

# Low budget not merely a matter of cash

Fifty films were shown during a low-budget film forum in Hamburg to demonstrate what low-budget productions are capable of.

Low-budget film-makers, producers, representatives from television stations, distributors, politicians and officials from film-promotion organisations in France, Britain, the Netherlands and the Federal Republic were there.

Hamburg's *Filmbüro* organised the forum with the intention of highlighting the difficulties in financing and producing films, difficulties that are not unique to the West German industry, and to develop ideas for possible European cooperation.

In daily workshops an attempt was made by the four countries to agree at least on the definition of the term "low-budget."

The proceedings were started by the host country, West Germany, with a formulation of film categories by journalist Kraft Wetzel, that started off considerable argument.

Wetzel said that apart from privately-financed productions, mainly low-quality comedies and sex films, there are aided productions that involve, speaking quite roughly, budgets up to one million marks.

He defined five different types here: gay films, women's films, films about the alternative society, ingenious amateur films and classical experimental and documentary films.

The Germans argued for and against assistance from television for film-making.

The Dutch in their workshop spoke out unambiguously for the need for more practical orientation in film-making. Because the Dutch market is so small every Dutch film has to be low-budget.

The Dutch showed themselves to be open-minded about the idea of European cooperation, although this is still in its infancy.

Despite the geographical proximity of West Germany to Holland there has until now not been a single production agreement between the two.

At the beginning the British produced a detailed and informative summary of their aid system and strategies, which, however, in the course of the debate, was strongly criticised by the British themselves.

The sharpest British critic was Derek Jarman [illegible] the much-praised Channel Four. He has just made the film *Caravaggio*.

He said: "Channel Four is a green pasture, but it could be your worst enemy."

The French said they were satisfied with their aid system, which has the advantage of being in the position to adjust to economic and practical changes.

A concrete plan was drawn up for improving the European situation that included four sensible measures.

There are to be quotas for films and screening rights will no longer be negotiated for individual countries but for Europe as a whole.

A European distribution organisation is to be set up, so that money will again be funnelled to producers.

Finally dubbing and sub-titling for European films will be financed by the European Community's Film Fund, so that language barriers, that have hinder cultural exchanges, can be surmounted.

Much was talked about at the five days in Hamburg, gaps in knowledge were filled, contacts made, and, what was probably more important, those taking part did not give up heart.

Participants were given the hope that together they could raise up the European film from its sorry state.

The films from the four countries that could be seen in Hamburg, justified this expectation.

Although the forum was in no way a film festival, 50 films were selected by the Hamburg organisers for screening during the event.

These films showed that low-budget was not only a matter of limited cash, but also a desciption of independent films that can get the cinema going again.

The organisers in Hamburg really got the film going in every sense of the word.

Every night films were shown, screened on a giant screen floating on the Binnenalster, the lake around which the city is built. Thousands had a chance of "going to the cinema" again.

What is to happen with the Low-Budget Film Forum? Organisers, guests and politicians seemed quite impressed with it.

It was perfectly organised, so perfectly, in fact, that the Low-Budget Film Forum gave the impression that it had a very large budget to play with.

The Hamburg Senate wants to get involved next year.

*Dorothee J. Poppenberg*

(Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 22 June 1986)

**Judith Rauch, 29, a Tübingen journalism student, won the DM3,000 first prize in the 1986 scientific journalism competition sponsored by the Federal Research Ministry for this article on the trace element selenium.**

■ HEALTH

# Chinese award for work on a life-giving poison

Tübingen biochemist Albrecht Wendel recently earned an unusual academic distinction. The medical faculty of Xian University, China, made him an honorary professor.

Professor Wendel and his staff specialise in selenium, a non-metallic element similar in many respects to sulphur.

It occurs in minute, barely quantifiable amounts in the human body. It is a so-called trace element.

Fifteen years ago, when work on selenium began in Tübingen, research into trace elements was considered an unusual, not to say exotic aspect of biochemistry.

Hardly anyone imagined it could ever be put to practical use in medicine. So why are Chinese doctors so grateful for German selenium research?

An unusual complaint, the Keshan disease, was widespread in several parts of China until the 1970s. It occurred in a belt extending from the north-east to the south-west.

In these areas one per cent of the population, especially young mothers and children, suffered from what was a serious cardiac muscle disease from which half of them died.

Peasant families who lived exclusively on a diet of food they grew themselves were particularly hard hit.

In Germany living off the land, especially home-grown food, is felt to be particularly healthy. For children in Keshan and other Chinese provinces affected it was disastrous.

Chinese scientists realised in the 1970s that the disease was due to the lack of selenium in the soil and, naturally, in the food people ate.

The connection between soil with a low selenium count and widespread cardiac complaints was impressively shown to be more than a hypothesis in 1976-77 field trials by the Xian medical research unit set up by the Chinese Academy of Sciences to study the Keshan disease.

Doctors gave an enormous number of patients a one milligram dose of selenium every 10 days. This simple, inexpensive precaution virtually eliminated the disease.

In 1980 Professor Xu, head of the Xian research unit, and Dr Wendel first met at an international congress in the United States.

They kept in contact, having found that they could learn much from each other.

Tübingen research scientists had shown in 1973, before Dr Wendel's time, that selenium formed part of an important protective cell enzyme (enzymes are proteins that accelerate or make possible chemical reactions in the human body).

So man clearly needed selenium in small quantities. Stock breeders and vets had known for some time that selenium was an essential trace element.

Selenium is scarce in parts of Germany too, such as the Sigmaringen area. Selenium shortage can lead to muscular dystrophy in horses, sheep and cattle. Their flesh turns white.

In poultry it causes underdevelopment of the pancreas, while pigs whose fodder contains no selenium suffer from cardiac muscle damage.

Western experts had never come across symptoms of selenium deficiency in humans until initial reports on the Keshan disease appeared in 1979.

Selenium deficiency is no problem for people in the industrialised West, but only because their diet is so varied.

The enzyme containing selenium the structure of which Dr Wendel and his associates had identified in 1978 proved an important means of diagnosis for Chinese doctors.

The element itself occurs in such minute quantities in the body that it can hardly be measured, but the enzyme count in the blood is a telltale pointer.

The Tübingen research scientists, who have since identified an entire range of enzymes containing selenium, learnt last year from their colleagues in Xian that selenium deficiency symptoms can be more varied.

They had taken a closer look at the Kashin-Beck disease, which was discovered by Kashin and Beck in 19th century Siberia and is widespread in parts of China where selenium deficiency occurs.

The Russians who first discovered it had no idea what caused it but the effect was clear: bone growth irregularity and joint deformation, especially of fingers and knees, leading to muscular dystrophy, but not death.

This complaint is so widespread in the parts of China where it occurs, Professor Xu said in Tübingen at the award ceremony, that in some villages fruit cannot be harvested because no villagers are able to climb the trees.

Kashin-Beck disease can also be prevented and cured by taking selenium tablets.

All findings so far outlined indicate how useful selenium is as a human health factor. But it also has a darker side to it.

In larger doses (20 times higher than the Chinese tablets) selenium is a toxin that can cause hair and nail loss and even death, as technicians who work with selenium, in the manufacture of photoelectric cells, for instance, well know.

So people who take an overdose of yeast tablets as sold by pharmacists and at health stores may run a risk of selenium poisoning.

This warning is timely given the current selenium craze in the United States. Selenium has taken over from vitamin E as the latest "in" drug claimed to boost health and efficiency.

Professor Wendel strongly advises against following this particular trend.

To illustrate his point he tells a tale related by Marco Polo, whose horses' hooves fell off in China.

They did so because, oddly enough in a country where selenium deficiency is a serious problem, they had eaten plants that are now known to extract selenium from the soil and contain a substantial amount of this otherwise rare element.

*Judith Rauch*

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 4 July 1986)



# Medical servic[e] tries to stop in-flight illness

Medical emergencies among passengers happen about 900 times a [year] on Lufthansa airliners. Most turn out [to be] only minor but 20 to 30 people fall [seri]ously ill and between four to six die during flights.

Lufthansa handle 16 million passengers a year, so the figures are less alarming [than] they sound.

The ideal would be for a doctor [or] dentist to be on every flight, but that is [ob]viously not possible.

Aircraft carry all the instruments [and] medicine that can reasonably be used [on] board. In six emergencies out of 10 [there] is a doctor on board. A special insurance policy covers them if anything goes wrong and a passenger later sues.

If there is no doctor on board, the [plane] makes an emergency landing at the nearest airport. Between 1979 and 1984 45 [un]scheduled landings were made for this rea[]son.

But the bulk of Lufthansa's medical ser[]vice, which has been in operation for [] years, is active before anyone gets on [the] aircraft.

Chief medical officer Lutz Bergau [says] in Frankfurt the service has devel[oped] from a one-man outfit to an interna[tional] organisation with head offices in Ham[burg] and Frankfurt and a worldwide network [of] 143 doctors under contract.

Service is provided for both passengers and staff; Lufthansa employs a world pay[]roll of 40,000.

Nearly all over the world passengers can consult a Lufthansa doctor who is fluent in German or at least in English [and] who is capable of deciding whether a per[]son should fly or not.

Patients must pay their own fees, [but] fees are charged by arrangement with Luf[t]hansa, meaning they are not excessive.

Dr Bergau's department employs [] doctors on a full-time basis, eight in Frank[]furt and six in Hamburg. They are labo[ratory,] tropical and aviation medicine specialists.

There are a further 35 medical orderlies and clerical staff.

The latest cardiac and circulation diag[]nostic equipment is available in Hamburg and Frankfurt. There are chemical and parasitological laboratories, X-ray, audi[]ometrical and optical equipment.

Lufthansa spends DM5m a year on health care. Much of this is for medicals for pilots and flight-deck staff.

Five doctors check them. Pilots over [] have to pass medicals every six months. Younger pilots and flight engineers [have] annual tests.

Anyone who is sick for longer [than a] week has to retake the medical. []

Last year a Lufthansa pilot fell seriously ill in the cockpit, but there are always two pilots on board.

Cabin staff — 6,000 stewards and air hostesses — take regular medicals.

Other services include medical advice, vaccinations and first aid in connection with accidents and illness.

All flight staff are checked for tropical diseases. They are trained in first aid.

Doctors are keen to join the service. Dr Bergau says about five a week apply to join — even though they will earn less than they might in general practice.

But there are perks such as fairly regular working hours, cut-price tickets and few drawbacks of any kind.

Besides, Lufthansa doctors have a special relationship with flying. All hold pi[]lot's licences.

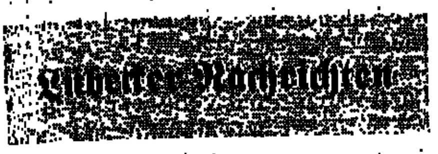
*Siegfried Brugger*

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 4 July 1986)



■ SOCIETY

# Discovery: sex hasn't gone away — experts bemoan lack of tuition about it



Sex education in some schools seems to be almost a taboo theme despite the fact that 20 years ago *Land* education ministries were told to include it in the syllabus.

Specialists say that, as a rule, sex education is given either reluctantly or not at all.

Professor Norbert Kluge works at an educational theory college in Landau, Bavaria, and is regarded as one of the country's leading sex education specialists.

He says that the handling of the subject in schools is miles behind the times.

The German society for sex education reported at its annual conference in Würzburg that the situation was bad. The indications were that it was getting worse in some *Länder*.

Eighty per cent of sex education is done by biology teachers. In those few schools where classes are held, the teachers are overworked and undertrained. University tuition for them is meagre.

Because of their feelings of awkwardness, teachers shrink from working with parents.

Parents, on the other hand, also are not sure of themselves. They would like help from the schools on the topic.

Kluge says the situation is broadly true for the entire country, although there are differences between the north and the south with Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg, according to a 1981 survey, doing less than other *Länder*.

Over the years, sex education teachers have run into many problems with both schools and government departments.

Researchers at a an international meeting in Landau told how, last year, for example, education authorities and school authorities made it as difficult as possible to carry out a large-scale survey.

Delegates heard that sex education lessons in Rhineland-Palatinate and Baden-Württemberg have either been reduced or eliminated from primary school syllabuses.

Surveys reveal that comprehensive explanations about birth control methods keep down the rate of abortion among girls aged between 14 and 18.

They also reveal that 20 per cent of all girls are fully unprotected against the risk of pregnancy when they have intercourse for the first time.

Studies also contradict the widespread belief that explanations about sexual questions excite the sexual appetites of young people prematurely and encourage them to try for themselves.

Statistics collected internationally show that countries with the best sex education advice and the most liberal access to means of birth control have the lowest teenage pregnancy rates.

Holland has an incidence of 12 teenage pregnancies per thousand girls; Sweden 35; Britain 45; and the USA 83.

For years the *Länder* have been urged to take sex education seriously — and train teachers to handle it.

No German university has a chair of sex education. Professor Kluge wants to establish the nation's first institute for sex education research in Landau.

*Thomas Maier*

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 27 June 1986)



# Cash crisis may kill off suicide centre

On average, four people aged 25 and below commit suicide every day in this country. Another 400 try but fail.

In Berlin, attempts are being made to break new ground in the problem.

In 1984 a group of psychologists, educationalists and sociologists set up an advisory centre in an old building.

But, despite the suicide statistics, the centre, thought to be the only one of its kind in Europe, is in danger of closing for lack of funds.

The Ministry for Family Affairs made arrangements to provide funds for the first three years, but this state financing arrangement ends in 1987, and Berlin's senator for youth affairs has let it be known that her department cannot provide the DM850,000 needed a year.

It was set up in the first place because there is no facility in West German that can treat and help children and young people in situations of emotional crisis.

Over the past few years psychologists, educationalists and doctors have learned to value the centre in Berlin's Uhlandstrasse.

Ulrich Brenning, a worker at the centre, said that instead of letting young people out into the world after medical treatment for a suicide attempt, feeling uneasy and embarrassed, the centre has been able to provide post-medical care.

The suicide attempt is invariably a cry for help for a whole range of problems.

The specialists at the centre try to bring the teachers, friends and parents of the young person who has attempted suicide together.

More than 60 young people between 11 and 20 have been taken in by the centre. The stay varies from two days to 18 weeks.

Every week 14 to 16 people, children, young people and people concerned with them, turn to the centre for help.

In addition 100 sessions have been held for passing on advice and training to about 1,000 professionals and non-professionals who come into contact with suicidal young people.

*Birgit Loff*

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 2 July 1986)

# Soccer grounds 'no source of neo-Nazis'

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

Attempts by neo-Nazi groups to recruit members from the ranks of soccer fans are largely unsuccessful, according to a Berlin survey.

It says the fans are primarily interested in football and not politics. However, neo-Nazis did have common ground with many fans — a dislike of foreigners.

The survey was carried out for the Berlin Technical University and a youth sport organisation by a team which included a teacher, Helmut Heitmann, and a sociologist, Andreas Klose.

Their purpose was to investigate the phenomenon of violence connected with the sport.

The researchers say that punishing violent fans and taking strong preventative measures was not a solution. This only made the violence more surreptitious.

Weapons used include stones, baseball bats and even Very pistol flares. Heitmann says that fights sued to be with the fists. The police habit of marching in in battle uniform and creating a militant image hadn't helped keep things cool.

Heitmann challenges what both the police and a football official say: that football-related aggression in Berlin is declining.

For one and a half years, he and Klose have been mixing with the fans of three Berlin clubs, Hertha BSC, Blau-Weiss 90 and Tennis Borussia. They watched home games and travelled to away matches.

Their biggest problem was to overcome mistrust. At the beginning they were regarded as stool pigeons.

The reason was that stewards in club supporters' clothing had been insinuated into the crowd at Hertha homes matches in an attempt to isolate ringleaders. The researchers had been tarred with the same brush.

Rudolf Kramell, who is in charge of security at Hertha, says the club's tactics had resulted in some ringleaders being banned from the ground for life. This had clipped the wings of the more aggressive followers.

Heitmann and Klose found that the general image of the football fan was a false one.

Fans were not conpicuously young, neither more nor less educated than other groups and that the level of unemployment among them was not higher than average. Klose: "They represent a cross-section of society."

The great majority of clique members were between 17 and 19, although an increasing number of younger fans were appearing. Motivation for following the team was adventure. Stadiums were places where they could cut loose.

A local Berlin law prevents people gathering in public places and drinking alcohol. Offenders can be fined 10,000 marks. But at football, it was easier to get away with it.

Soccer offered the chance to let the feelings run high, and often the frenetic cheering of the local team and booing of the opposing team were perceived, wrongly, as being signs of aggression.

*Luten Lehnhos*

(Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 6 July 1986)

■ HORIZONS

# Why some women prefer to live alone in spite of social pressures

Four single women have told me why they prefer to live alone. Their reasons are similar.

The conventional view is that women should delight in motherhood and the joys of family life. Single women are regarded with some suspicion.

The conventional view is that there must be something wrong with young people of both sexes who remain single. If not that, then they are worried at getting involved in lasting relationships.

Single people are notorious as loners and workoholics with a hole-in-the-corner sex-life.

But being single is for many people a pleasant state — although of course there are no statistics.

Women now in their 30s and 40s are the first generation to have opened up this new, alternative way of life.

Marlene is a 32-year-old lawyer. She is single, but not alone. At weekends, she is visited by a male friend, something which is recommended to ambitious professional women by women's magazines.

They share a bed but not their homes or daily lives. The relationship has to work.

Unlike the marriage ceremony injunction "for better or for worse," couples stay together so long as things go with a swing, but when the going gets rough they part.

"I cannot image where I would get the energy from to deal with domestic problems after a hard day in the office," Marlene said.

But wouldn't it be nice to have someone at home and to have someone there to have breakfast with in the morning?

Marlene said this was of no importance to her, adding: "Of course that would be nice sometimes. But Günter is just as knocked out as I am after work, so that we would soon get on each other's nerves."

She continued: "It suits me that I do not have to take a partner into consideration, at least not every day. I don't have to think: he's now waiting for me, when I must urgently go through a couple of files.'

"When I invite him to a meal at my place with candles on the table, good food and music, that is quite different from dashing back for a bite in the evening and just chatting about pointless nothings."

Psychologists maintain that people put greater store on being happy, men and women are not so willing to struggle through the difficult times together. There is a reluctance to meet the demands that a partner inevitably makes.

Does this add up to worry about lasting relationships and egoism? This emotional agoraphobia cannot be dismissed as easily as that, for living together means working to make the relationship work. This is mainly the woman's burden.

This begins with small routine things and is especially critical when "she" has to be all ears for "his" problems; although she has had a hard day herself. She has to suppress her own frustrations, which until not so long ago was a marital duty of a married woman.

But women today are no longer prepared to invest all their energies in private relationships rather than in getting on in their careers. They have other priorities."




Love is important to them, but work is just as important.

If men pay lip service to this state of affairs but are not prepared to accept it in reality then eventually trouble arises. Sigrid's refusal to accept the traditional woman's role sounds more convincing, more radical and angrier than Marlene's attitude.

For the past three years she has lived in a communal flat and is no longer single. She is expecting a child. She is on good terms with the man who has fathered the child, but she does not want to marry him nor live with him.

"I'd be very unhappy at having to give up my job and my financial independence. I'm lucky because as I am an illustrator I do not have to work regular hours and I can depend on my flatmates to look after the child.

"But just imagine if I were married. If I did not give up my job I would be marked as a selfish person with two jobs."

She continued: "As a member of the staff I would be the first to go if economy measures were introduced, because I am 'looked after.' But as politicians say marriage is not a welfare institution. Nevertheless later I would be dependent for my pension on my husband, because I was not full-time employed long enough and my own pension would be too small.

"If the marriage breaks up then I turn out to have been really conned."

Sigrid pointed out that "time and time again you can see how difficult it is for a women to take up her career again after she has been away from it for some time. Many women have to be satisifed with poorly-paid jobs just to be able to earn something. And the pay the ex-husband earns is usually not enough to keep two households going."

She added: "Our society is anti-women and anti-mothers as well. The state allowance paid for bringing up a child is just cosmetic. We women must open male politicians' eyes to the power we have.

"Sometimes I think there would be some sense in promoting a strike against child-bearing. Mind you I'm delighted about my child."

The attitudes Marlene and Sigrid take show that a woman's thoughts about establishing a family are spoiled by existing pressures on woman to take up the traditional role as well as social disadvantages. These disadvantages are as great for career women, particularly those with children, as they are for ordinary housewives.

These women prefer to live within their own four walls rather than in the cosy security of the family group.

Frequently, however, they get a taste for this alternative way of life and do not want to change.

How is it that a woman finds herself in the single condition? After her education Sigrid lived most of the time in communal accommodation. Her relations with men did not go any further than sharing a roof.

Marlene has been married but her marriage did not allow her increasing indepenence to flower.

Renate's decision to live alone was the result of considerable experience. She said: "When I was in my mid-twenties, like most of my friends who had a permanent relationship, I got involved with a married man. When the others went off in couples together on holiday or at the weekends, I stayed at home alone twiddling my thumbs.

"I learned about being alone out of necessity. For example, I got used to going to a pub alone, because the house got on my nerves so much."

She continued: "I did not find this too much of a strain, in fact, for I often met people with whom I could chat. I learned how to put off those who tried to make a pass at me, and that did not happen as often as I feared it would.

"There was a time when I envied women who got self-confidence from being with someone else or from family ties. But when I see the difficulties divorced women have to deal with to get by alone, particularly if they married young, then I'm glad that I have learned how to live alone without feeling lonely."

Her current friend lives in another city. They meet at the weekend, but they have no intention of living together.

She said: "I don't think I could do that any longer. Perhaps there is a p[illegible] when you can get to know how to [illegible] together, like learning how to speak; [illegible] doesn't happen at a definite period [illegible] your life, you never learn it.

"Anyway I have my job and my circle of friends, I don't feel that I['ve] missed anything."

For the past two years Adele [has] lived alone, since she parted from [her] friend. Asked if she had a boyfriend[, she] said: "When I hear the word boyfriend [I] think of duties and tennis, but not lo[ve."]

She finds companionship and se[curity] in her group of friends, who are, [like] Adele, all involved in their free time [in] Amnesty International.

Her job as a teacher, Amnesty, [con]certs, parties, films and books fill her life, as well as conversations [with] male friends. She has no time to be [lone]ly.

Will her life always be like this? Does she want to grow old in this style?

Why not, she says. But she does [not] rule out entirely that eventually [she] might get involved with someone, [get] married or live together.

"But there's time for that," she s[ays.] "One day I might find the man or [a] woman with whom I know I could live together to do and die for."

This is a new version of the old sto[ry] when the right person comes along[, with] the difference that "the right per[son"] could be a woman. But Adele is not [pre]pared to tear herself apart as a vic[tim at] the altar of love.

She said: "I have tried for quite a [long] time to get on in my job. When I b[egan] to feel that I had got on top of my [job,] then my friend said how nice it would [be] for us to have a child.

"I also thought that but it was a li[ttle] too early for me. I was not confide[nt en]ough that I could manage my job [and a] child."

She continued: "For eight[een] months we battled with one ano[ther] about our relationship, but it fell ap[art] because we both did not want the sa[me] things."

Adele is in no hurry to fall in lo[ve] again. Is she not worried that she [will] lose her attractions as she gets old[er?] This is always a worry for women w[ho] live alone.

She said: "No, not really. I think [I] shall be more, not less, attractive."

Her confidence is based less o[n a] skin that is well cared for with cosmet[ics] than from a well-cared for [...] life.

Faced with such calm, last minute panic doesn't have much of a chance.

*[illegible]*

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 5 July [...])

# Self-help centre for wives of prisoners

Women whose husbands or boyfriends are in jail can now meet at a Berlin self-help centre: AFI (prisoners' wives anonymous) gives women a chance to air their problems — which society is often not keen to do.

Astrid joined a few weeks ago. She explains: "When I come back from visiting my husband in prison, I am not capable of saying anything. All I can do is cry."

Now she can speak plainly at AFI. She is with other women who have similar problems and know what she is going through.

Most of the husbands are serving long terms. The longer they are inside, the more fragile the marriage or relationship becomes.

"Not every woman under this pressure is able to keep the relationship going. Even prison visits have their stress: putting up with controls, submitting to surveillance and having to wait round for long periods.

So in some cases, by the time the man is released, the wife has formed a new relationship.

The women at AFI get to grips with these realities and with the social disapproval and even rejection they generate.

Even friends and relatives, including parents, often say the wife is mad to wait; that she should find someone else.

Socially, however, it is difficult for a woman to admit to outsiders that she is married with a child and that the husband is in jail. Ulrike met her hus[band] in jail [illegible] They [illegible]ed there two years ago. She visits him there for about an hour every week. N[o] physical contact is allowed, although sometimes, she says, the wardens turn a blind eye.

"The situation is intolerable and degrading for them both, she says. She ca[n] barely stand the despair, loneliness a[nd] helplessness after each visit.

They also write to each other a[nd] sometimes talk on the telephone, b[ut] both forms of communication are mon[i]tored and often lead to confusion be[cause] problems cannot be fully [dis]cussed.

All the women admit that they [wait] for their husbands to ring and that [they] become nervous if the telephone d[oes] not ring at the appointed time.

The constant worry about their h[us-]

Continued on page 15



■ SPORT

# Becker's second Wimbledon win shows that Cinderella comes only once

**Last year Boris Becker came from nowhere (he wasn't seeded) to win the oldest tennis title in the world, Wimbledon. It was fairy-tale stuff. This year, at the ripe old age of 18, he was fourth seed after Ivan Lendl, Mats Wilander and Jimmy Connors. It was clear that Becker might win again, but the magic could never be quite the same as last year. So it was. Connors and Wilanders went out early and Becker, now an acknowledged grass-court expert, took only three sets to beat Lendl (who doesn't like playing on grass). Becker hit 15 aces as millions of West Germans sat glued to their television sets. But, as Guntram Müller-Jänsch writes here in the Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, it just wasn't the same as last year.**


The tennis firm. From left trainer Günther Bosch, Becker, manager Ion Tiriac. (Photo: Sven Simon)

For two and a half hours we kept our fingers crossed as we followed Boris Becker on the centre court.

We saw him make short shrift of the top seed, Ivan Lendl, in straight sets. It was a demonstration of strength, determination — and of his characteristic last-ditch dive.

Game, set and match Becker — and sighs of relief in front of TV screens all over the country.

Yet last year, when he won his first men's singles final at Wimbledon, it was all somehow different: more exciting and intensive. It seemed almost miraculous that a 17-year-old could pull off such a feat.

Total strangers hugged each other and clapped each other on the shoulders. They found it hard to believe that a German had finally made it to the top in professional tennis.

Besides, he was such a nice, unassuming, fair-haired 17-year-old. German hearts swelled with pride.

They still do, of course, but differently. People have taken the news more in their stride.

Last year it was all new. Boris became the first German ever to win the men's singles at Wimbledon; he was also the youngest; and the first unseeded player to win it.

Everyone was crazy about Boris. When had a Federal President ever before visited a TV studio to pay his respects to a 17-year-old tennis star?

Chancellor Kohl invited him to the youth festival in Bonn. TV personality




Frank Elstner invited him to take part in the variety programme *Wetten, daß . . .?*

Franz Josef Strauss, Lothar Späth and Walter Wallmann all basked in Young Boris's reflected glory. Unicef even made him its special envoy.

Becker was voted Sportsman of the Year and won the Silver Laurel Leaf, the Bambi and many other awards.

Nothing in tennis has been the same since the dawn of the Becker era. Newcomers have joined tennis clubs in enormous numbers and people who had lost interest began to brush the dust off their rackets.

With Boris starring in the German Davis Cup team more sports reporters covered matches than there used to be spectators.

And with good reason. Never before has a German team played such thrilling matches, with team-mates inspired by Becker to play outstandingly well. Never before has a German Davis Cup team come so close to winning. They lost to Sweden in the final. TV coverage reflected tennis's growing popularity. In 1985 ZDF, Channel Two, screened 3,142 minutes of tennis, leaving soccer a poor runner-up with 1,612 minutes. The figures for ARD, or Channel One, were much the same. Sportswear manufacturers who clothes he wore reported skyrocketing sales. So did his racket manufacturers, who paid handsomely for the privilege.

Next to no-one knew they manufactured tennis rackets, but with Boris behind them they became market leaders overnight.

Above all, the country had a new hero. Illustrated magazines promptly portrayed Boris as the paragon of the "new German youngster" who would hear nothing of the dropout approach to life. He was said to stand for an end to principles that had been the hallmark of a "tear-stained generation" and the beginning of a fresh lease of life for German virtues such as hard work, ambition and endeavour.

He exuded wit and charm in interviews given in fluent English. Not since Max Schmeling had a German so embodied the idea of a clean-living sportsman.

He even kept his hands clean when it came to raking in the advertising revenue. This less salubrious but indispensable part of the business was left to his bearded Rumanian manager Ion Tirlac.

Tirlac, a former tennis pro, was probably one of the first to realise what enormous amounts of money could be earned. He made sure they were, pocketing 10 per cent of the prize money and 30 per cent of the advertising revenue.

He had no qualms about being criticised as a bogyman, an exploiter and a slave-trader — as long as Boris remained untainted and an A1 advertising medium.

Becker neatly sidestepped any appearance of earning a fortune, telling reporters he read only in the newspapers what he was supposed to have earned.

When he then donated DM200,000 to charity for handicapped children his fans were convinced once and for all he was as pure as the driven snow.

But pressure increased as more was expected of him. Germany expected him to carry on winning. But he won only two grand prix titles between the 1985 and 1986 All-England championships.

He was regularly beaten, either by higher seeds in the semi-finals or by unknowns in the opening round.

Fans also read in the papers that Boris was bad-tempered in court when he made mistakes, grew cantankerous with umpires and linesmen and no longer seemed capable of warding off defeat.

Even heroes sooner or later show signs of wear and tear.

He was even reported to have girls (rather than tennis) in mind, to be at loggerheads with his manager and trainer, to refuse to accept training and preparation schedules and seldom to visit his family in Leimen, near Heidelberg.

Still only 17, he he clearly had a mind of his own and had realised that he was No. 1 in the Tiriac, Bosch and Becker partnership. Did that befit a hero?

In time tennis fans came to associate him more with the loser's look than with the cheerful winner's grin that so endeared him to millions who saw him on TV.

When he turned 18 and reached the age of adulthood the age of innocence was well and truly over. Boris the wonder boy was no more.

The world is crazy about wonder kids, and it has a fine disregard for frontiers.

The British and Americans took to Boom-Boom Boris after his 1985 Wimbledon win as readily as his fellow-countrymen.

They stood and cheered him, shaking their heads in disbelief at what this fair-haired teenager 1.90 metres (6ft 3in) tall and 80kg (176lb) in weight was capable of.

British and American newspapers were only too happy to dub him the German Wunderkind. Those were the days.

Mozart in his day knew what it was to have been an erstwhile child prodigy.

The countess who had been in raptures over his performance as a child barely saw fit to lift a finger in applause when she heard him play, undoubtedly a far more accomplished musician, as an adult.

His paternal friend Baron Grimm is reported to have told him: "Let us not succumb to illusions. Your being a child prodigy was, when all is said and done, the main reason why you were such a success in those days."

Boris is still a success. He is back on top and earning applause, but the spontaneous, riotous applause of yesteryear has yielded to something more everyday. The fairy tale has become routine.

It was fascinating to visualise a teenager becoming a fivefold millionaire by dint of hard work in the space of a single year. No-one begrudged him his earnings and few resented his self-imposed tax exile in Monaco.

None but politicians and notorious moaners carped at his tax avoidance. Today's man in the street is less forgiving.

Yet nothing special has changed. The teenage prodigy has merely become an ordinary mortal.

Boris may have sensed the difference a year ago when he was at pains to emphasise that he was "just an ordinary human with two ears and a nose." But no-one believed him a year ago.

*Guntram Müller-Jänsch*

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 8 July 1986)

# Living alone

Continued from page 14

bands governs their entire lives. Will they be able to stand the pressures after release? How should they go about resuming the relationship? How will the children react when their father suddenly reappears?

Astrid has some idea. He husband was in jail before and has since been returned there. So she knows what the situation is like after release.

She says: "I cannot give any advice; I can only say what happened to me. This time I'm going to do things differently."

Last time, as an example, she used to get mad when her husband wanted to go out without her and kick up his heels a little. Now she would be more tolerant.

That is all in the future. In the meantime she must come to terms with her own problems: her work, her small daughter, the loneliness, the financial problems. It all "eats away at the nerves."

It's the same for the others. Almost all have small children to lok after, a job with its share of stress and many other difficulties.

AFI member Susanne: "Since I joined the group I feel better because I can talk about the problems. I feel accepted and understood. I no longer fear the discrimination and the piteous glances."

*Monika Herrmann*

(Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 29 June 1986)